

Upsurge of violence in New Caledonia puts pressure on Chirac

Cabinet crisis talks on eve of French poll

From Susan MacDonald, Paris, and Christopher Morris, Sydney

France flew military reinforcements into New Caledonia yesterday after three gendarmes were killed and 27 captured by Kanak separatists.

The rebels' action turned the troubled Pacific territory into an election crisis issue on the eve of the French presidential polls.

M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, held a two-hour emergency Cabinet meeting in Paris yesterday and then briefed his election rival, President Mitterrand, on the situation by telephone.

M Bernard Pons, the Minister for Overseas Territories, denounced "these serious events carried out by a squad of 30 terrorists".



An injured Kanak being lifted from a plane yesterday after clashes between French gendarmes and Kanak separatists.

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olence, thought to have been carried out by Kanak extremists seeking independence, who then captured the remaining 27 members of the squadron and took them off into the dense surrounding bush belonging to indigenous Melanesian tribes.

Yesterday, another 200 gendarmes were flown from France to New Caledonia, including a 20-man special intervention force. The Government promised to re-establish order before voting tomorrow, but mobile police reinforcements were yesterday still searching for the 27 missing gendarmes.

M Chirac, in a radio interview yesterday, denounced the attack on the gendarmes as a "terrorist act" by groups which benefited from the aid of certain foreign countries that supported international terrorism.

M Jean-Marie Le Pen, the leader of the extreme right-wing National Front and its candidate in the presidential election, declared that he was scandalized by the Government's "kid-glove" approach in New Caledonia.

MPs to back Thatcher in dispute on sterling

By Martin Fletcher and David Smith

An influential all-party committee of MPs is to produce a report on Monday which supports the Prime Minister in her dispute with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, over exchange rate policy.

defended the policy of attempting to hold sterling stable, saying that it was perfectly compatible with an overall anti-inflationary stance.

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The Tory-controlled committee will call for greater disclosure by the Treasury of the Bank's foreign exchange operations and is expected to argue that intervention on the scale of last year cannot be sustained over the long term.

In this committee will be clearly aligning itself behind Mrs Thatcher's contention in the Commons shortly before last month's Budget that "you can't buck the market".

The Chancellor, in evidence to the committee last month, defended the policy of attempting to hold sterling stable, saying that it was perfectly compatible with an overall anti-inflationary stance.

Search for pen behind the masque

By Alan Hamilton

No one was more surprised yesterday by the claims that a new Shakespeare manuscript had been discovered than the staff of the Californian library which owns it, except possibly the present Earl of Derby.

Ms Sue Hodson, associate curator of manuscripts at the Huntington Library in San Marino which has had the document in its archives since 1917, disclosed that it had been pored over endlessly by scholars in the past 51 years, and was so well known that library regularly sold photocopies of it at the equivalent of 15 pence each.

"It has been studied by generations of scholars, none of whom chose to have it published. The library had no idea that Professor Levi was going to publish it; he didn't tell us," Ms Hodson said.

Professor Peter Levi, incumbent of the chair of poetry at Oxford University, plans to give a full public justification for his alleged discovery at a press conference on Monday.

In spite of a tidal wave of academic opinion which discounts authorship by the Bard, Professor Levi declined to comment yesterday. He will claim that the verses in the disputed manuscript were written for the engagement of

Labour tackles cash crisis

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A radical four-year plan designed to tackle the Labour Party's financial crisis and double its membership is to be put to party leaders on Monday.

The party, facing a deficit of more than £2 million by the end of the year, aims to raise £6 million from trade unions to fight the next general election campaign.

The rescue plan has been drawn up by Mr Larry Whitty, the party's general secretary, after discussions with Mr Neil Kinnock and the general secretaries of all the main trade unions.

They plan includes a national Labour Party membership list, cut-rate membership fees for trade unionists, rises in affiliation fees and a big direct mail fund-raising drive.

Mr Whitty's plan will be put to a meeting of the finance and general purposes committee which on Monday will also receive a report from independent auditors underlining the grave state of the party's finances.

Peat, Marwick McLintock, appointed to investigate the finances at the insistence of the party's bankers, say that the party faces a deficit of more than £2 million by the end of the year.

Mr Whitty's proposals, which have general backing from union leaders and the party leadership, will go before the ruling national executive committee for approval in principle next Wednesday.

At their heart is the plan to turn Labour into a mass party with a larger membership more representative of the public.

Mr Whitty is to recommend a phased increase in trade union affiliation fees, the sum paid to the party by unions for each of their levy-paying members, from 75p to 90p per member in 1991.

In a far-reaching move designed to build up funds for the general election to £6 million, he is proposing a special additional payment of 20p per head this year, rising to 55p in 1991.

No-strike pledge led to nurses' rise

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The nursing profession earned its big pay increase because of the pledge taken by most nurses not to strike, the Prime Minister said yesterday.

Mrs Thatcher, speaking after visiting a Nottingham factory, denied that the Government had been pressurized by industrial action by some

Sister smiling 2

nurses in February into making the average 15.3 per cent award.

She said: "I want to make it absolutely clear the reason we gave the nurses a pay review body was because the Royal College of Nursing had never gone on strike."

"There never would have been a pay review body at all but for the high standards maintained by the RCN, who we feel, we will never take it out on the patients".

Continued on page 24, col 7

Minister's silent slip falls betwixt cup and lip

By Sheila Gunn Political Staff

Sunday lunchtime drinkers look set to gain an extra hour's opening time because of a minister's slip.

Lord Ferrers, who recently returned to the front bench in the Upper Chamber, tried to force a vote on an amendment in the Licensing Bill allowing public houses to close at 3pm instead of 2pm.

He duly shouted "not content" when the question was put. But his was the only voice against it - which led to the question being put again. On the second call Lord Ferrers thought his Whips would speak up and so sat silent. The result was approval for the amendment without a vote.

The Licensing Bill is back in the Commons where MPs will soon decide the issue. But yesterday Westminster sources made clear that the Government is willing to live with the change and Conservative MPs will not be "whipped in" to throw out the Lords' amendment.

The Home Office has been holding consultations with the "Sunday" lobby and believes the change in the hours will not cause too much fuss.

The Government has no strong objection to the extra hour, although it had deliberately shied away from changing the Sunday session for fear of stirring up the Keep Sunday Special lobby.

The thirteenth Earl was asked to return as deputy leader of the Lords, and 'become a Home Office Minister, to boost the front bench on the retirement of Lord Whitelaw. Lord Ferrers, who is popular and imposing and enjoys a penchant for practical jokes, has openly admitted he had meant to oppose the amendment and slipped up.

The change in the Sunday public house opening hours also creates anomalies. For instance members of clubs immediately pounced on the Home Office demanding an extension so that they too can open for six and a half hours on the Sabbath, instead of five and a half hours.

Lord Ferrers acted more quickly with an amendment on extending the clubs' opening hours. He forced the issue to a division - and won.

However, in so doing, he managed to antagonize members of Britain's 1,400 Conservative clubs as well as those in golf, working men's and other sorts of clubs.

Public houses in Scotland will not come under the Licensing Bill.

Hope of arms treaty stalled

From Our Correspondent Moscow

The chances of a strategic arms treaty being signed at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit evaporated yesterday after Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, said that outstanding problems still remained.

But Mr Shevardnadze said a document could be signed by President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev at next month's Moscow summit if both sides fail to conclude a strategic arms treaty in time.

At a news conference after holding two days of talks with Mr Shultz aimed at preparing for the summit, Mr Shevardnadze made it clear that he did not expect the treaty to be ready in time because of the difficult and complicated work involved.

"If it's not ready, some kind of document could be drafted where we could formalize the progress made," Mr Shevardnadze said. "Sooner or later, I am sure we will be able to complete this accord, and we will have another history-making achievement."

Mr Shultz said that both sides had not yet given up trying to conclude a treaty in time for a summit. He said he

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev and Mr Yegor Ligachov, the Kremlin number two, smiled and chatted during a rally in Moscow yesterday in a display of unity that seemed to quash rumours of a big split in the Soviet leadership. Page 7

and Mr Shevardnadze would make new efforts to reach agreement at a meeting next month.

As to whether the ministers had decided that completing a treaty was impossible by the end of next month, Mr Shultz said: "We haven't said that to each other." But, he added: "It gets more difficult as time goes on. We remain determined to keep at it... so that the summit will have a solid substantive component to it."

Mr Shultz's statement concerning lack of progress on the strategic arms treaty providing for 50 per cent cuts in US and Soviet long-range missiles, was not unexpected. Mr Reagan said on Thursday that he doubted if an agreement could be reached in time.

Mr Gorbachev also indicated before opening three hours of talks with Mr Shultz yesterday that in his view the negotiations were "marking time".

In response to a question about Mr Gorbachev's comment and Soviet criticism of the US approach, Mr Shultz said: "From our standpoint

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Boroughs suggest a £5-a-day fee to ease London traffic jams

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The possibility of charging drivers up to £5 a day for the use of London's roads is one of the options for easing traffic problems to be put forward next month by a body representing 33 boroughs.

A £5-a-day charge on vehicles coming into central London could raise up to £4 million daily. The idea will be included in a consultative document to be published by the London Planning Advisory Committee, which will deal with other issues including employment, the environment and housing.

The advisory committee said yesterday it was not advocating charging for the use of congested roads in central London. It was merely an option for dealing with the capital's traffic problems. Other options included more investment in public transport, a road building and road improvement programme and traffic management schemes on radial and orbital roads.

At the same time, a call for imaginative and courageous decisions on road-building, as part of a coordinated attack on the capital's traffic problems, was made by Lord Ezra, the Social and Liberal Democrats spokesman on economic and industrial affairs.

He called for the provision of more parking spaces, tougher enforcement of parking rules, more traffic management schemes to keep traffic moving at difficult junctions, more investment in surface and underground railways and more bus lanes.

He said traffic congestion was estimated to be costing up to £3 billion, or 1 per cent of gross national product, a year. Government steps to help to combat the problem were not properly coordinated.

Amplifying a speech he made in the House of Lords

after a series of articles in *The Times* last week, Lord Ezra said a minister should be appointed at the Department of Transport to coordinate authorities such as the London boroughs, London Regional Transport and British Rail, which were responsible for decisions affecting traffic.

He said a scheme put forward by Costain, the contractors, for road and rail routes on the Thames river bed deserved careful examination.

In the longer term, the Department of Transport should be looking at the possible need for levying a charge on motorists using the most congested areas of London. However, he said he recognized that at present such a move would be politically unpopular.

Mr Peter Imbert, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said last December that permits for drivers entering central London in peak hours might be one solution to the city's traffic congestion.

The advisory committee said that consultations on its traffic document would take place during the summer. It was hoped to produce a final version by about September, which would be submitted to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment.

If the process of consultation revealed that road pricing deserved serious consideration, more research would be carried out into levels of payment and how the charges would be levied.

In considering the possibility of road pricing, a charge of £5 a day had been one of the figures used in making calculations. However, it did not mean it was a fee which the advisory committee would advocate.

The inclusion of road pricing among its options

emerged at a briefing given on Wednesday night to the London region of the National Chamber of Trade by Mr John Popper, the group's chief planning officer.

The British Road Federation, which campaigns for an improved road network throughout Britain, said road pricing would be a form of double taxation on motorists, hitting businesses and possibly forcing some to re-locate.

The Automobile Association said a charge of £5 a day would penalize private motorists least able to afford it, while the charge on company cars would simply be passed on to consumers.

Motor taxes were already raising about four times as much as was being spent on roads, with £14 billion being generated by taxation and only £3.3 billion being spent on road construction and maintenance in 1986-87.

There are no tolls on public highways in Britain. Charges are levied for crossing some bridges, such as those over the Humber and the Forth. The planned bridge across the Thames at Dartford, east London, which is being financed by private capital, will bear tolls, as does the existing tunnel at Dartford.

In Singapore, cars are allowed into the city centre at peak times only if they are carrying at least two passengers.

In Paris, where traffic has quadrupled in the past 10 years, a three-point plan has been proposed to create a special traffic police force, a network of high-speed road tunnels and a computerized traffic light synchronization scheme. In Athens, half the city's 800,000 private cars and taxis are barred from the inner ring on alternate weekdays between 6am and 8pm.

Golden gosling hatches at Slimbridge



The fiftieth Hawaian goose hatched at the Wildfowl Trust this year carefully cleans its down after breaking through the shell (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

By Andrew Morgan

The Wildfowl Trust yesterday celebrated the fiftieth hatching of this season of the endangered Hawaiian goose, or Nene.

The species declined from an estimated population of 25,000 in Hawaii in the eighteenth century to fewer than 50 birds in the 1940s, due to the attentions of humans and animal predators.

It was selected for breeding programmes at the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, and at Pohukukua on Hawaii and there are now more than 2,000 in the world.

Mr Peter Scott, the trust's honorary director, introduced the first pair of Nene at Slimbridge in May, 1950, with the hope of eventually returning some to the wild.

However they both turned out to be females and a male had to be found hurriedly.

In February 1952, a Nene called Emma laid the first clutch of eggs and a second, Kaitani, went on to produce 99 eggs and 11 goslings before her death in 1960. The average clutch is four to five eggs.

In 1962, about 30 geese were flown to Honolulu and released on Maui, where they had become extinct. Over a four-year period 59 birds were returned to the wild.

Rearing at Slimbridge combats the loss of eggs through disturbance from other birds, the cold climate and the public. Incubation is 28 to 29 days and it can take 24 hours to hatch at a temperature of 38°C. Goslings are kept in the propagation centre from 15 days to 10 weeks.



Nene geese, two to 10 weeks old, in the propagation centre.

There are about 50 adult breeding pairs at Slimbridge and 60 eggs are expected to be reared this year.

The Nene is the largest of the native Hawaiian land birds and the egg weighs on average 150 grams. Goslings average 100 grams.

The breeding season in England starts five months later than at Pohukukua and is

shorter. Eggs are Slimbridge are much lighter, possibly due to the climate.

Mr Michael Omsted, head of development at Slimbridge, said the trust was co-operating with the Hawaiian authorities in a new project finally to establish the Nene in the wild.

"It has been another very successful breeding season for the Nene."

Portfolio — PLUS NEW — Accumulator Winner plans a party

Mrs Leslie Bartlett, a local government receptionist from East Molesey, Surrey, has won the £4,000 first prize in the Portfolio Gold competition.

She said: "It is such a surprise. I assumed that of least 400 others would be ringing in to claim."

Mrs Bartlett, who has

been following the competition "on and off" since its inception, never before came even close to achieving a winning tally.

As soon as she recovers from having learnt of her good fortune, she plans to throw a party for her three sons, daughter-in-law, and the rest of her family.

'High-pressure sales' worry trading officials

By Tim Jones

Trading standards officials last night called on the Government to plug loopholes in laws which allow thousands of mainly elderly people to be persuaded by salesmen to take on commitments they cannot afford.

Their call came as one of Britain's leading social psychologists said that many people could be in danger of becoming financially over-stretched and emotionally disturbed because of the attentions of specially trained high-pressure salesmen.

Professor Robert Farr of the London School of Economics was commenting on the case of the "prize man" salesman who effectively imprisoned a Bristol couple in their home for four hours as he pleaded

with them to buy an £800 vacuum cleaner.

The salesman, from the Kirby Home Care System, of Radstock, Avon, needed the sale to secure the award of top sales representative, which would have given him a luxury holiday in Cyprus.

A consumer protection officer with Birmingham City Council said that some of the most blatant cases involved the sale of time-share properties.

He said that people who signed time-share contracts in their homes had a legal cooling-off period during which they could withdraw from the agreement but the protection was not there if they signed contracts in the offices of companies selling the deals.

Police want EEC drug force

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A European task force of drug investigators may be needed in the 1990s to combat trafficking after the formation of the EEC single market, a police conference was told yesterday.

Mr Hugh Ahnesley, chairman of the conference in Preston, Lancashire, and head of Scotland Yard's specialist detectives, said that both the EEC single market and the Channel tunnel raised anxieties about drugs.

"There is a significant amount of cocaine about and anything that means it can get into Europe more easily is of concern. Safeguards would be needed for law enforcement groups to prevent a deluge on the United Kingdom.

Interpol would study the idea and police, Customs and Whitehall officials were already discussing the EEC changes, but if the task force

was not formed or other measures taken, then Europe, which is already threatened with a deluge of surplus cocaine, could have even more serious problems.

Mr Arthur Rigby, deputy chief Customs investigator, said he feared it would be easier to bring drugs into the United Kingdom. Customs officials in Brussels were trying to get agreement to retain the right to stop suspects.

Conviction for murder set aside

Anne Reynolds, aged 19, who was jailed for life for killing her mother, was freed yesterday after it was accepted that she was temporarily unbalanced after the secret birth of her baby.

She was placed on probation after her murder conviction was set aside and a plea of manslaughter with diminished responsibility was substituted.

The Court of Appeal was unanimous in freeing her after 14 months in custody. It has been accepted by psychiatrists that she was suffering from post-natal depression combined with premenstrual tension at the time of the killing.

Miss Reynolds killed her mother, Elizabeth, aged 61, by battering her to death with a hammer at their home in Roman Way, Brackley, Northamptonshire, two months after giving birth to her soldier boyfriend's baby. The baby, a boy, has been adopted.

She was convicted at Northampton Crown Court in February last year. About 6,000 people from her home town signed a petition calling for her release.

Lord Justice Stocker, sitting with Mr Justice French and Mr Justice McKinnon said the murder conviction was unsafe and unsatisfactory.

They accepted new medical evidence before them that she was suffering from temporary diminished responsibility at the time of the killing.

Advance alert on jet faults

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways is to equip most jets with automatic monitoring equipment capable of finding defects and relaying advance warnings to engineers on the ground.

The equipment, known as Aircraft Communication Addressing and Reporting System, will cost £6 million to install and is designed to speed up maintenance and pinpoint potential trouble while the aircraft is in flight.

At the moment a pilot can report an aircraft fault only by describing symptoms by radio to the ground. Advances in engine monitoring mean, for example, that a vibration or over-heating in an engine can be analysed and details beamed automatically to Earth where engineers can study them and give a precise cause.

Spare parts can be ordered

in advance of the aircraft's arrival with a team on standby.

About six ground stations capable of collecting the information are being set up around the world and, for the moment, any aircraft within 250 miles of a dish will be able to transmit technical information. Eventually it is hoped to cover the whole world by using satellites.

The equipment will also give weather details and act as a flying tachograph, recording precisely the aircraft's position and landing and take off times. BA believes it will have paid for itself within a year.

Fewer than 50 former B-Cal aircraft engineers have turned down job offers with British Airways, in spite of facing pay cuts up to £5,000 a year.

It had been feared the engineers, paid up to 30 per

cent more than their opposite numbers on British Airways, would refuse to sign contracts and wreck the takeover of the Gatwick-based airline by BA. Only 21 permanent staff and 28 part-time workers have accepted the terms; 1,300 have accepted.

The men are being used to overcome a shortage of engineers throughout the industry. BA is hoping to take on both young apprentices and qualified engineers and within three years hopes to have at least 750 under training.

Mr Alistair Cumming, British Airways' director of engineering, said yesterday: "I feel sorry for the B-Cal engineers who have had to take a big drop in pay but the reality is that they worked for a company which was rapidly going bankrupt."

£70m rail link set to open

By Our Transport Correspondent

The Princess Royal will open a railway route on Monday linking areas north of London with the south coast.

The route, to be known as Thameslink, will pass through the re-opened Snow Hill tunnel, between Farringdon and Blackfriars, to enable through services to run from Bedford to Kent and Sussex. Sixty new four-coach trains have been ordered for the line and a full service will begin on May 16.

Until then tests will be

operated. Passengers will be carried on some runs, but these will be subject to cancellation. The project cost, including tunnelling and rolling stock, is more than £70 million.

The electric trains are capable of 100mph, and have been designed to take current from the overhead lines north of the Thames, or from the "third-rail" system in New-wood South East.

Passengers travelling from

areas such as Sheffield and the East Midlands to Gatwick, East Croydon or Brighton, will not need to make a road or Underground journey between London termini. They can change at Luton.

Intermediate stops at stations such as Bromley South, East Croydon and London Bridge will give access to many lines throughout the South-east. From Farringdon and Blackfriars in the City there will be a half hourly service to Gatwick Airport.

Electronic doom box for unwary mice

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Ralph Waldo Emerson observed that a chap who could design a better mousetrap than his neighbour would find the world beating a path to his door.

The mouse of the future is likely to find his path beset not by traps or poisoned baits but by an electronic detector; the rodest equivalent of a burglar alarm.

The Mouse Alert system consists of sensor boxes designed to encourage mice to enter them. A light on a control panel indicates the presence of the intruder.

The operator can then summon the hit squad, in the person of a Rentokil serviceman, who will, in the company's words, "interrogate the control panel

with a special key to locate the area of mouse activity", and take appropriate steps to liquidate the victim.

If that sounds a bit over the top compared with the lump of mouldering cheddar on the lethal springboard, it is all part of a move towards pest control without pesticides.

Rentokil said the system, using infra-red beams to trigger the sensor in each box, was quicker and more reliable than traditional baiting. Only one bait in a million killed its intended victim. That was the equivalent of a machine gunner firing 10 rounds a second for more than 24 hours before hitting his target.

"The prophylactic approach can no longer be justified", the company said.

Other developments disclosed yesterday include the use of sex attractants to lure unsuspecting moths, flies and cockroaches to their doom, and hormones to inhibit the development of ants and beetles that damage food. The ultimate weapon is a portable gas chamber using such environmentally harmless fumigants as carbon dioxide or nitrogen, which leave no residues.

It has been successfully used to treat woodworm in the seats and body panels of cars at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu.

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Dublin 'clears' accused Briton
Insider dealing charges
stage exit

Ridley orders experienced team into action in Lords

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

A team of experienced government peers is to be drafted in to help to smooth the passage of the poll tax legislation through the House of Lords at the insistence of Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Lord Calthness, Minister of State for the Environment, with responsibility for hereditary issues, will be in charge of the Local Government Finance Bill which goes to the upper House next week. Lord Glenarthur, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, has also been assigned to deal with parts of the Bill.

The help of Lord Mackay of Cassifier, who has quickly adapted to his role as Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords, may also be called on depending on his other commitments. He has been put in charge of contentious clauses affecting universities in the Education Reform Bill.

In addition, several senior backbenchers are likely to be briefed to fight off any attempt to emasculate Mr Ridley's proposals for a flat-rate community charge.

The Government's business

managers are giving priority to the poll tax proposals in its legislative timetable in the hope of pushing them through the House of Lords as early as possible. They are optimistic that the "instincts" and conventions in the upper House will deter any Conservative peers who are unhappy with the flat-rate community charge from clashing openly with Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

That is in spite of technical advice from the Lords' authorities that there is no bar to them passing an amendment similar to that proposed



Lord Calthness, in charge of smoothing Bill's passage.

by Mr Michael Mates, MP for Hampshire East.

Government whips insist that the Conservative Party does not have an overall majority in the upper House. However, so far in this session it has been polling higher figures than in recent years and has not suffered any important defeats.

The first formal reading of the Local Government Finance Bill will be given next week. The detailed committee stage will start at the end of next month before peers rise for the Whitsun recess. That means that by early June the upper House will be in the middle of both the education and poll tax measures.

However, the main concern of the Government's business managers will be to get through the tricky passages of the Local Government Finance Bill before Conservative peers are tempted away from their division lobbies by the diversions of Royal Ascot, Henley and Wimbledon.

By convention, peers do not vote on a government Bill at second reading but save their fire for the detailed examina-

tion stages. During the revising process, they are not under the same limitations on time and amendments as MPs.

Lord Cledwyn, leader of the Labour peers, said yesterday: "We do not vote against a government Bill at second reading on the basis of the doctrine of the mandate. That is the convention we observe, as we did on the Education Reform Bill."

"But we are perfectly entitled to process this (Local Government Finance) Bill in the normal way, tabling amendments and, if necessary, voting against the Government."

He recognized that peers might be treading on difficult constitutional ground if they passed a "Mates" amendment but he believed they would be within their rights to approve such a change under their powers in the Parliament Act 1911.

Opposition peers are worried that Tory backbenchers might be "bulled" by Government whips into not tabling radical amendments by claiming that they were acting unconstitutionally.

Relatives may try to halt axe death inquest

A High Court attempt may be made on Monday to halt the inquest into the killing of Daniel Morgan, the private detective found with an axe through his head.

Relatives of Mr Morgan, aged 37, do not want the inquest to end without the evidence of Mrs Sharon Rees, aged 31, the wife of Mr John Rees, Mr Morgan's partner at a detective agency. He was arrested and released by murder squad detectives.

Mrs Rees is said to be one of only two people told about an alleged plot to kill Mr Morgan. She vanished from her home in Thornhill Heath, south London, after being told her evidence was required.

Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, may rule that she would be too ill to give evidence even if traced.

Second sale of Italian paintings

More from a hidden hoard

Christie's is to sell a second group of nineteenth century Italian paintings from a huge hoard, hidden from the moment they were painted until last year. The collection, to be sold next Friday, can be compared to the Nanking Cargo of china, and is an important discovery for art historians.

The hoards were two South American-born brothers, Juan and Felix Bernasconi who, during the late nineteenth century bought the paintings from the artists, and stacked them unframed at their home, the Villa Argentina outside Lugano. Invited by a descendant to value the collection last year, Christie's discovered the paintings in the attic and stacked away in drawers.

The auction house sold 2,500 of them and was amazed

by Sarah Jane Checkland Art Market Correspondent

at the £3.5 million raised, four times their estimate. It retained 205 of the better works and it is those which are now on offer. They include 26 previously unseen works by Mose Bianchi, the family's favourite artist. Estimates which were between £10,000 and £20,000 last year are now £40,000 to £80,000.

A seventeenth century Dutch winter landscape by Aert van der Neer fetched top price of £264,000, at Christie's Old Master sale in London yesterday, bought anonymously.

bought two high priced works: a still life of flowers, its leaves enhanced with drips of water and a caterpillar, by Balthasar van der Ast at £242,000 (estimate £150,000 to £200,000) and a pair of tiny seascapes by Salomon van Ruysdael for which he paid £110,000 (estimate £30,000 to £40,000).

Two pictures described by Christie's expert, Gregory Martin, as "grizzly", fetched £70,000 over their estimate to an anonymous buyer.

A Venetian painting of the Adoration of the Shepherds, presented to St Mary's Church, Elham, in memory of Charles Lindsay Murray Scott (killed in the First World War) raised £12,100, within estimate.

The sale totalled £2.6 million, with 78 per cent sold.

In search of the future



Fresh air and futuristic concepts in the shape of the roofless Hunter car on show at Turin.

Like George Melly's suits, the Hunter concept car was designed to attract attention (Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent, writes). The black, futuristic buggy with seats in wet-suit yellow fulfilled its designer's ambition at the Turin motor show this week alongside the work of Gagliero, Pininfarina and Bertone, the haute couture of automotive design.

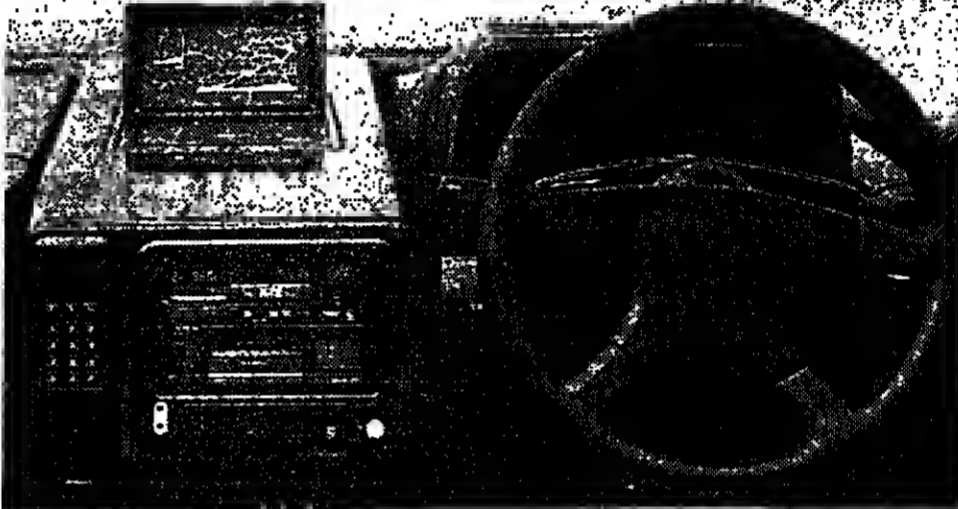
Mr Martha Longmore, the Hunter's creator, works for International Automotive Design of Worthing, West Sussex. He said: "Cars are looking so alike these days that it is very important to push design ahead."

There is no roof. Miss Cindy Charwick, the interior designer, said: "You have to dress for the weather". She included a satellite navigation system so drivers leaving metalled roads will know what the terrain is like ahead.

The Hunter and the company's luxury

Royale saloon, also making its debut at Turin, each took a team of 15 designers and engineers six months to create at a combined cost of £500,000. They are not for sale. The Royale was designed by Señor Jesse Luis Diaz de la Vega, the Mexican stylist, as "an exciting luxury saloon that can be used as an office".

Mr Bill Barranco, Royale's interior designer, dismisses a tape cassette player as antique. The rear seat passengers have a facsimile machine, lap-top computer and individual television screens. The Royale boasts 13 speakers for the sophisticated sound system. "The thirteenth is an activator which transforms one of the structural parts of the car into a base speaker. It should sound like a concert hall inside the car", Mr Barranco says, with the air of someone who takes the future very seriously indeed.



The dashboard, showing the off-road navigational system to the left of the steering wheel.

Tube costs and safety 'outside inquiry'

By Tony Dawe

The contentious issue of whether safety has been sacrificed to cost-cutting on the London Underground was ruled out on the fifty-first day of the public inquiry into the King's Cross disaster.

Mr Desmond Feenell, QC, the chairman of the inquiry said that the issue, which has been raised repeatedly since last November's fire which killed 31 people, was beyond his terms of reference.

He said the inquiry should explore London Underground's attitude and its reasons for taking decisions on safety measures affecting the fire.

Lawyers thought it reasonable for the inquiry to consider whether the tight financial regime imposed on London Underground by the Government had led to cuts in safety protection. But counsel for the company had opposed the claim.

In his judgement, Mr Feenell said that the terms of reference of the inquiry, set up by the Secretary of State for Transport, had invited him to look into the circumstances of the fire and not "to conduct a general inquiry into the running of the London Underground".

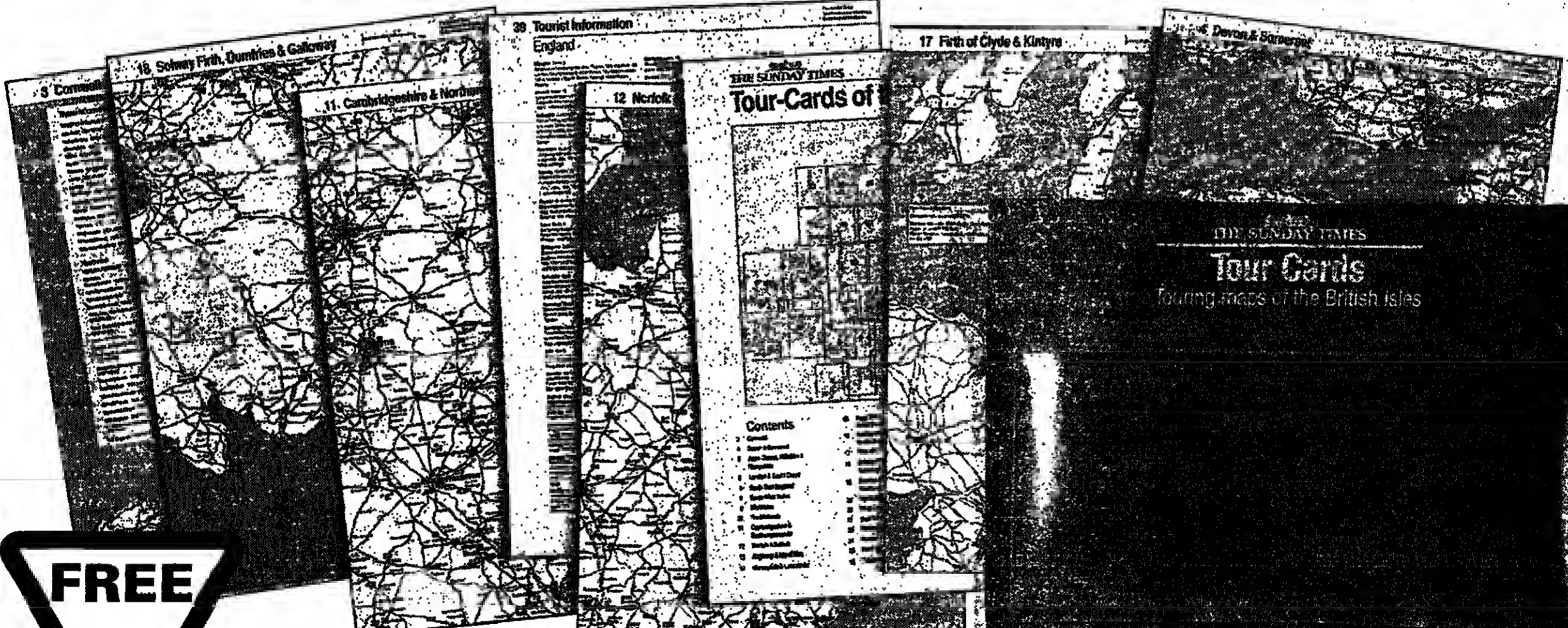
"That would be a wholly different proposition. In my judgement the finding of the Underground is ultra vires this investigation, which is concerned with what happened on the night of November 18 and why. Accordingly I do not propose to consider the point or to allow evidence upon it."

Mr Feenell said the inquiry should consider the company's decisions on the water fog equipment, smoke detectors, and the use of wooden components on the escalator. Matters of passenger evacuation, training, staffing, passenger and station control were also relevant to the inquiry.

He also ruled that evidence about other fires on the Underground could be allowed when there were common factors.

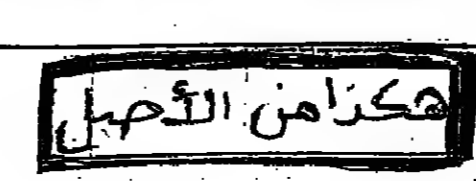
But he would not consider the question of creating a new external agency to oversee the running of the Underground. "An enforcing agency is already in existence", he said, referring to the roles of the Railway Inspectorate and the fire brigade.

FREE TOUR CARDS OF THE BRITISH ISLES



This Sunday, and over the next 12 weeks, The Sunday Times is giving away a superb series of Tour Cards covering the whole of the British Isles. Collect them, and they build into a truly definitive, bang up-to-date set of touring maps featuring everything from beauty spots to beaches and golf courses to ferry routes. There are large-scale city maps, but what makes these Tour Cards really special is information you won't find on conventional maps: addresses and phone numbers of Tourist Information Centres, information on getting weather reports, national and local radio

stations and ferry service operators. There's even a Gazetteer of major places of interest throughout the British Isles. You won't find a handier, more up-to-date touring map around - and this one is absolutely free! To make it still handier, get the take-anywhere Tour Card Wallet. Look out for our special offer in The Sunday Times.



Bill v again
A private Member
of the House of Commons
has introduced a Bill
to amend the law
relating to the
protection of
wildlife.
The Bill is
intended to
strengthen the
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Drug breakthrough may herald design of slimmers' sugar

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A discovery that might lead to the development of a non-fattening sugar has been made by scientists involved in "blue-sky" advanced research at Oxford University.

The discovery comes from a breakthrough in chemistry research that allows scientists to design drugs which avoid harmful side-effects.

That world-beating development by a team working with Dr Stephen Davies has been adopted for the creation of a new generation of pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals by companies in Britain, the United States, and Japan.

Yet Dr Davies was almost forced to abandon research three years ago after repeated refusals of support from the government-backed Science and Engineering Research Council.

He was saved by a new organization formed by BP, Venture Research Unit, which gave him given more than £250,000 and other support.

The unit, unique in Britain, looks for scientists with brilliant ideas that are rejected as being "too blue sky" or advanced by the committees of orthodox scientists who allo-

cate grants for basic academic research.

Commercial exploitation of the initial findings of the Oxford work was carried out by BP Chemicals, and Venture Research Unit has just awarded Dr Davies' team another large research grant.

He said: "The results should be even more far-reaching."

The first discovery has opened a new and much better route for chemists to synthesize the types of compounds needed to make drugs, pesticides and a wide range of other substances.

The new technique produces purer substances and cuts down on the quantity of raw materials.

There can be hidden dangers in up to half the molecules in a man-made drug.

They arise because although all the molecules of a compound may be chemically identical, in practice the mixture consists of two versions; one being a mirror image of the other.

Unfortunately, the body can absorb them in different ways with profound effect, as happened with thalidomide.

The fact that synthetic preparations consist of an equal mixture of the two types, also known as left and right-handed forms, has been known for decades by scientists. Complicated and costly methods are needed to separate them into pure products.

What Dr Davies has discovered is a family of reagents called chiral iron acrylates, which control the type of organic chemistry involved in making drugs so that only one form of the molecule can be made. That gives the chemist absolute "optical purity".

In addition to guaranteeing safety, a technology based on chiral reagents avoids elaborate and costly stages needed to achieve optical purity.

But research elsewhere has shown that natural sugar compounds comprise a mixture of chiral, or mirror pair, molecules, and that one version is not absorbed by the body.

Dr Davies said in theory it was possible to produce just the molecules of sugar which would not be absorbed by the body. Whether that could be turned into the ultimate sweetener for slimmers was a more complicated question.

Indian art collection freed from crypt

By Andrew Billen

The Victoria & Albert Museum in London yesterday opened the doors on the crypt where thousands of Indian prints, sculptures and textiles have been hidden from general view for decades.

Although the objects can be seen privately on demand and examined by scholars, most of the 44,000 pieces in the collection have not been seen since they were transferred to the V & A from the India Museum in Kensington, west London, in the 1950s.

Mr Robert Skelton, the keeper, who has been with the collection since shortly after the Second World War, said yesterday: "When they closed the museum, the government promised space would be found to display them in the V & A within 10 years. We all know what happens to that sort of promise."

The Indian Arts Council in Britain, a non-government charity, says the V & A has a moral obligation to display the collection in full and supports moves to distribute it to provincial museums, particularly those in areas where there are Indian and Asian immigrant populations.

Mr Bahraj Khanna, the council's chairman, said: "It is a great shame these things should be rotting in the crypt. They should be exhibited and seen and if that is not possible they should be returned to India from where they were looted in the first place. Mr Skelton is a devoted keeper who loves India and his collection. He should have



Mr Robert Skelton with one of the ivory carvings yesterday at the Victoria & Albert Museum (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

been given the financial capacity to display it."

Last month the V & A opened a gallery of Indian sculpture dating from the first

century BC to the 1500s. Next year it hopes to complete a £1.2 million display area in which the influence of India in the design traditions of the

modern world will be illustrated. The most ambitious project is the rebuilding of the museum's North Court, which will be used to show thousands of artefacts from Asia. A campaign to raise £10 million is being launched to finance the project.

Tube costs and safety 'outside inquiry'

By Tony Dawe

The contentious issue of whether safety has been sacrificed to cost-cutting on London Underground was raised out on the first day of the public inquiry into the King's Cross disaster.

Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, the chairman of the inquiry, said that the issue, which has been raised repeatedly since last November's fire, which killed 31 people, was beyond his terms of reference.

He said the inquiry should explore London Underground's attitude and its reasons for taking decisions on safety measures affecting the

Leavers thought it reasonable for the inquiry to consider whether the tight financial regime imposed on London Underground by the Government had led to cost-cutting. But cost-cutting for the company had opposed the claim.

In his judgement, Mr Fennell said that the terms of reference of the inquiry, as set by the Secretary of State for Transport, had invited him to look into the circumstances of the fire and not "in conduct of a general inquiry into the management of the London Underground".

That would be a wholly different proposition. In his judgement the funding of the background is ultra vires of the inquiry, which is concerned with what happened on the night of November 19 and why.

Accordingly, I do not propose to consider the issue of cost-cutting evidence upon it."

Mr Fennell said the inquiry should consider the causes of the fire, the smoke detectors, the use of wooden components in the escalator, the passenger evacuation, the starting, passenger and fire control were also the subject of the inquiry.

He also ruled that evidence on other fires on the Underground could be allowed where there were common issues.

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PARLIAMENT

Thatcher accused of 'shameless lack of candour'

An attack on the Prime Minister and "the accelerating arrogance" of 10 Downing Street was made in the Commons by Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Edin). He accused Mrs Thatcher of being involved in "organized mendacity", a phrase he later changed to "shameless lack of candour".

He alleged in an adjournment debate that decisions had been taken by Mrs Thatcher without the knowledge of departmental ministers concerned.

Mr Dalyell said that there were Conservative MPs who were as worried as he was about the decline of Cabinet government, the increase in prime ministerial power, the systematic attempt by Mrs Thatcher to downgrade and ridicule the Opposition and, for the protection of the office of Prime Minister, the resort to "organized mendacity".

Partly because of having got away over Westlands, the Prime Minister and her close entourage imagined that they could cut corners of public propriety and get away with it in a House of Commons that some of them despised.

Leaking against senior Cabinet colleagues had been developed into a technique of Government.

He believed that the Gibraltar shootings were carried out by the SAS on the express authority of the Prime Minister, via Mr Charles Powell, her private secretary, without the Foreign Secretary and the Foreign Office knowing much about it at the planning stage.

He believed, too, that much of what went on under cover in Northern Ireland, such as the bugging of the hay-yard where Michael Tigue was killed, had been outside the official authority of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, that authority had come from Downing Street.

The Ponting trial had opened the eyes of many people. "Eleven days at the Old Bailey revealed the organized mendacity of the Prime Minister."

No behaviour could be more grave than the sustained, shameless lack of candour by

the head of government. Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State, Privy Council Office, said that Mr Dalyell showed a remarkable consistency in his obsession with certain issues. Certainly he had a remarkable lack of proportion.

He suggested that there had been a campaign of organized mendacity or a shameless lack of candour on the part of the Prime Minister. That was totally unworthy of him.

The Prime Minister was widely accepted as a leader of great integrity. Her achievements were remarkable and historians would judge her as one of the country's greatest Prime Ministers.

Those who served ministers were hard working and of the



Mr Dalyell: Increase in prime ministerial power

highest loyalty. The demands upon those in the private office of No 10 must be that much greater.

Any unauthorized disclosures of official information were to be deplored and were carefully investigated. The Government took any breach of confidentiality extremely seriously.

The implications of Mr Dalyell's remarks was that the Government was not open and did not give adequate information, but this Government had persistently pursued a policy of encouraging departments to make available as much information as possible, consistent with the requirements of good government.

Mr Thomas Cox (Tooting, Lab) said that in a recent case involving a dog biting, the dog was not confiscated, but this had been overturned on appeal. The judge said that if Parliament had intended dogs to be confiscated that would have been in the legislation.

Mr Browne said he had heard that a top nature dog would sell for around £10,000, so loss of an animal would be a serious deterrent.

Mr Hogg said that he was in favour of forfeiture but this was already provided for under the 1911 Act.

The amendment was withdrawn.

The Malicious Communications Bill, which proposes fines for people who sent or delivered, post-box letters or other articles intended to cause distress or anxiety, was read the third time.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State, Home Office, said that it was time the law protected the innocent victims of hatred and malice.

The Environment and Safety Information Bill, which requires all monitoring agencies responsible for public or environmental safety to keep a register of the notices they issue, was read a second time.



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Ford Escort 1.6 GL	5	£8228	10.1	108.3
Ford Sapphire 1.6 L	4	£8245	12.7	102.6
Austin Montego 1.6 L	4	£8249	10.8	104.2
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6 L	5	£8296	11.6	101.2
Vauxhall Astra 1.6 GL	5	£8297	10.7	105.7

Source: Motor Magazine.

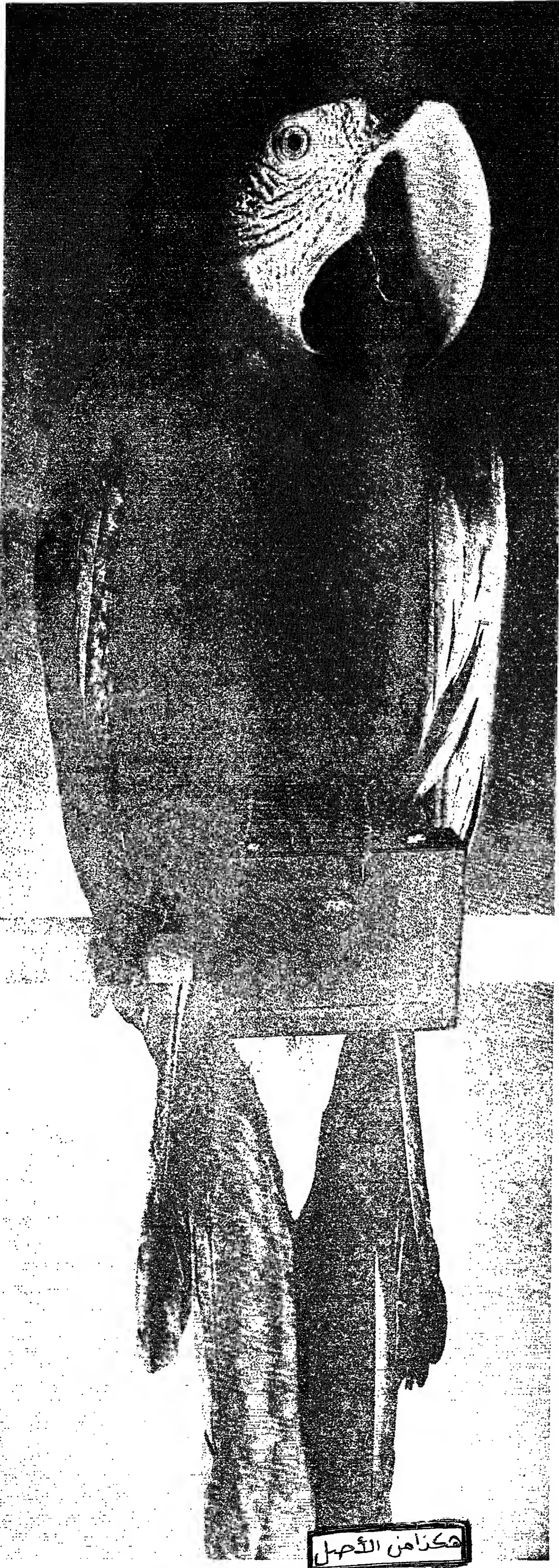
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Reagan in talks on Meese row

Washington - President Reagan summoned two top Justice Department officials to the White House this week to ask for a detailed explanation of their complaints against Mr Edwin Meese, the beleaguered Attorney-General (Christopher Thomas writes).

Botha under attack

Dr Andries Treurnicht, the leader of South Africa's far-right Conservative Party and the Opposition in the white House of Assembly, yesterday likened President Botha to a buck walking along a river bank unaware that the crocodile of 'black power' was about to gobble him up (Our Foreign Staff writes). He said: "You are walking straight towards (Chief Mangosuthu) Buthelezi" referring to the Chief Minister of the KwaZulu tribal homeland, often portrayed as the black leader with whom Pretoria might deal.

'Punish Algeria' call

Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Foreign Minister, yesterday came out in favour of imposing diplomatic penalties against Algeria if the suspicion that the Kuwait Airways hijackers have escaped prosecution is confirmed (Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, writes).

British link broken

Harare - The City Council of Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, has voted to remove the city's last remaining memorial to the family name of the Marquess of Salisbury, by renaming the central Cecil Square African Unity Square (Michael Hartnack writes).

Rebel feud theory

Lisbon - Portuguese authorities are working on the assumption that the kidnapping and murder this week of Evo Fernandes, the former secretary-general of the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), was a "settling of scores" among dissenting factions (Martha de la Cal writes). Rebel representatives, however, are blaming the Mozambique secret service for the killing. The movement's leadership, facing international criticism, the new US and British policy to support Maputo and an effort by South Africa to distance itself from MNR atrocities, has sought talks with the Government of President Chissano. But rebel factions in the United States and Malawi are known not to agree to negotiations with Maputo.

Stalin daughter's plea

Moscow (Reuter) - Stalin's daughter Svetlana Alliluyeva, right, has lost her Soviet citizenship for the second time, according to a decree published yesterday. The decree, signed by President Andrei Gromyko, said the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet had agreed to allow Svetlana, aged 61, who now lives mainly in the US after living in the Soviet Union from 1984-6, and her teenage daughter Olga to relinquish their citizenship.



Hunting for clues to the next US Cabinet

A bizarre feature of American democracy is that voters have no idea what kind of government they will bring to power when they enter the polling booths. They vote for only two men: the President and his running mate. History has shown that in normal circumstances the second choice is almost irrelevant: vice-presidents neither shape policy nor wield real responsibility. Unlike parliamentary democracies, the electorate has no chance to inspect the Cabinet team the President will bring with him. There is no discussion of the men and women to whom vital decisions on defence and foreign policy will be delegated. Indeed, candidates - who suffer the smallest details of their family, finances, character and background to be probed and analysed - testily dismiss questions about Cabinet posts as though the inquiry itself were some sort of impertinence.

ministers. President Reagan's Administration has been decisively shaped by men such as Mr Caspar Weinberger and Mr George Shultz. It has also been collectively damaged by the continued presence in the Cabinet of Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney General, whose brazenness in ignoring the legal and ethical investigations has brought the Justice Department to a virtual standstill.

Washington View

By Michael Binyon

also find a place in a Bush Cabinet - with perhaps new and added responsibility. On defence, Mr Bush has consulted Mr John Lehman, the former Navy Secretary; on national security issues he has drawn on General Brent Scowcroft, President Ford's National Security Adviser, as well as the ubiquitous Dr Brzezinski. Key political supporters would probably also be rewarded: Governor John Sununu of New Hampshire, whose vital intervention rallied the Bush campaign there and

saved the Vice-President's candidacy, can expect a good job. So can Governor Tom Kean of New Jersey, a widely-admired moderate Republican, and another man in the same mould - former Governor Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, who is also mentioned as a likely running-mate.

The names give an indication of the completion of a Bush Administration, but not its policies in detail. A Dukakis presidency is even harder to outline. A clean break rather than continuity would be the watchword: the only man who could possibly carry over from the Reagan Administration - and clearly not in his current job - is Mr Frank Carlucci, the perpetual good public servant, and a rare example of a man who failed to make money on leaving government. Mr Dukakis relies heavily on his many contacts at Harvard for advice: virtually all the senior staff at the Kennedy School of Government have contributed, and some, such as Mr Joe Nye, a Sovietologist and arms control expert, may hold senior posts in an Administration.

Palestinians in clashes on 'day of rage'

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

A "day of rage" called by the secret leadership of the unrest in the occupied territories ended violently in the Gaza Strip yesterday, with one Palestinian shot dead at Khan Younis and 10 others, including a boy aged nine, wounded at Jabalyah camp. One of the wounded was said to be in a serious condition. Jabalyah camp was where the four-month-old uprising began and it still continues to be one of the places where violence flares most easily, despite a death toll of more than 30 in the past four months and weeks of intermittent curfews. Yesterday's incident occurred when residents defied the curfew to attend Friday prayers.

Queen follows gold trail Down Under



The Queen greeting a baby during an informal walk through the Civic Centre of Geraldton, Western Australia, after proclaiming it a city. Accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, she yesterday headed for the Golden Mile, one of the richest gold seams in the world (Christopher Morris writes from Kalgoorlie). They

travelled over 1,000 miles deep into the outback of Western Australia, retracing the route of the old prospectors to Kalgoorlie, the gold rush town. The journey by jet and a Rolls-Royce ended up in Hannock Street, the so-called "Street of Gold" that bears the name of the Irishman, Paddy Hannon, who discovered the first nugget in 1893. The Queen was given a gold nugget worth about £500 by a youth who had found the piece using a metal detector.

Jericho, traditionally one of the more moderate areas in the West Bank, is becoming increasingly volatile. On Wednesday evening one of the town's three Arab policemen who have so far refused to resign was beaten up. A source of irritation in Jericho is the continuing refusal, for 40 days now, of the Army to allow shopkeepers to open for business.

Gorbachov in show of Kremlin unity

Moscow (Reuter) - Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader and Mr Yegor Ligachov, his number two, smiled and chatted throughout a Moscow rally yesterday in a display of unity that appeared to quash rumours of a big Kremlin split. The two stood side by side, applauding loudly, after a speech by a senior Communist Party official, Mr Gorygy Kazumovsky, who delivered a resounding reaffirmation of Mr Gorbachov's proclaimed democratization campaign. In what analysts said could have been a reference to a top-

level debate on the extent of the Gorbachov programme of perestroika (reconstruction), Mr Kazumovsky said "discussion of different views" could only strengthen Soviet society. In the past two weeks, there have been strong rumours in Moscow that Mr Ligachov, aged 67, who has expressed hardline views on cultural and press freedom, had clashed with Mr Gorbachov and other reformers. Rumours apparently emanating from Soviet sources in the past few days, and fuelled by Mr Ligachov's absence from the public stage, have suggested that he may have had some of his responsibilities removed and been rebuked by his colleagues in the Politburo. But analysts said that yesterday's scene in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, where almost the entire Soviet leadership was attending a rally marking Lenin's birthday, seemed to dispel this thesis. As the stocky, white-haired Mr Ligachov entered the hall with his colleagues in the Politburo, he was greeted by Mr Nikolai Kyzhkov, the Prime Minister, with a warm handshake and a broad smile. The greeting appeared to confirm that Mr Ligachov had been taking a few days away. On the platform, Mr Ligachov took his usual place alongside an initially stern-looking Mr Gorbachov. But soon after Mr Kazumovsky began to speak, they could be seen on television smiling and joking with each other. In his speech, Mr Kazumovsky condemned what he called "the period of the cult of personality" - a reference to the three decades of rule by Stalin until 1953 and a term barred for years from the official Soviet lexicon as "anti-Marxist".

Iraqi stealth 'key to Fao recapture'

From Paul Valley, Baghdad

A complex and lengthy deception was practised on Iran in the weeks leading up to the offensive in which Iraqi troops recaptured the Fao peninsula in their most significant victory for five years, informed Western sources revealed here yesterday. The success of the 34-hour offensive to liberate the area, which had been under Iranian occupation for the past two years, was in large measure due to the fact that Tehran had been led to believe that the Iraqi Army was about to launch a counter-offensive in the north of the country. "Iraq had tried for two months to retake Fao soon after it fell in 1986 but their heavy armour got bogged down in the marshy terrain during the wet season. The standard military logic was that armour and artillery would not get the Iraqis out. It would take infantry and the losses to Iraq would have been severe," said one Western observer with access to military intelligence. Instead, the Iraqis opted to use stealth to launch an

armoured attack over the mud flats of Fao during the dry season. "They attacked in Ramadan when things tend to go quiet normally because Muslim soldiers must fast for the entire month, and they quite cleverly deceived Iran into thinking their attention was elsewhere." In recent months the Iraqi High Command had built up considerable numbers of troops along the southern front, of which Fao is the southernmost tip. But Iraq conveyed the impression that these were deployed to counter an Iranian offensive against the region to the east of Basra which had seemed likely after Tehran appealed last October for volunteers for a "final offensive" against Iraq, and began to post these recruits along the border not far from Basra. But Ayatollah Khomeini's campaign did not attract the number of volunteers needed. There were signs that the fanaticism of the early years was running out. Iran has never before attacked until it has massed equal numbers of troops. When this parity was not achieved, the likelihood of a new push diminished. But Mr Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, cleverly continued to speak apprehensively of this threat in the United Nations and to visiting journalists, thus justifying the Army's continuing heavy presence. "Then just before the attack Iraq sent its Defence Minister and the Army's Chief of Staff and their deputies to the northern front. The Iraqis were deceived by the ploy." Independent military observers here believe that Iran was thus robbed of the chance to reinforce the peninsula, which it had connected to the Iranian mainland with three pontoon bridges across the Shatt al-Arab waterway. "Supplying the peninsula was logistically difficult for the Iraqis. Even the drinking water had to be brought across the bridges. The temptation for the Iraqis must have been to reduce their numbers and hence reduce their supply problems, and hope that the Iraqis wouldn't realize it," one

Western observer said. Iraq has officially denied that its offensive was based on intelligence reports from US satellite pictures. Military observers believe this could be the case. "Simply from over-flying the area the Iraqis must have had a fairly strewed idea what was going on," said one. Military attachés from foreign embassies in Baghdad, who were given a guided tour of the battleground, now estimate that the strength of the Iranian force was far lower than had originally been believed. One diplomat who saw Iranian prisoners of war said: "They were not an impressive bunch. Many were boys who looked between 14 and 16. Others were quite elderly men." The Iraqi Army had found its offensive went more smoothly than might have been expected, observers said. Iran has claimed that Iraq used chemical weapons to secure the victory, a claim which has been denied in Baghdad. But independent

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US tobacco giants 'plotted to mislead smokers'

From Charles Bremner, New York

In one of the most potentially damaging rulings to confront America's giant tobacco industry, a New Jersey judge has found that three companies engaged in a devious and reckless conspiracy to mislead smokers about the dangers to their health. Mr Lee Sarokin, a federal judge, issued his harshly worded ruling as a response to a request by the Liggett Group, Philip Morris and Lorillard to dismiss a highly publicized suit brought by the family of a woman who died of lung cancer. The fortunes of the industry are

riding on the outcome of the case of Mrs Rose Cipolone of Newark. Until now the tobacco companies have won or neutralized more than 100 suits that sought to make them liable for illness and death alleged to have been caused by smoking. The cigarette makers argue that the link to lung cancer is still not conclusive. In the Newark trial, for the first time, the plaintiffs were allowed to produce thousands of industry documents that showed the companies were aware of a possible link with cancer as far back as the 1950s. The judge dismissed four allegations against the companies, including one that they had failed to warn Mrs Cipolone of the hazards of smoking. He noted that government health warnings had been placed on cigarette packets since 1966. Mrs Cipolone died in 1984 after 40 years of smoking. But he allowed a claim for punitive damages to stand, saying enough evidence had been produced to convince the jury that the "callous, wasteful and reckless disregard" for the health of consumers, the cigarette makers had "entered into a sophisticated conspiracy... to reduce, suppress and neutralize information coming from the scientific and medical community and to confuse and mislead the consuming public in an effort to

encourage existing smokers to continue and new persons to commence smoking." Overwhelming evidence had been presented to the court, Judge Sarokin said, to prove that smoking caused lung cancer and he said: "It is difficult to envision a more compelling case for an award of punitive damages." Lawyers for the industry hit back with a statement accusing the non-smoking judge of making an emotional finding. If the jury agrees with the judge when it gives its verdict some time next month, the tobacco industry could face a deluge of lawsuits.

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Danes condemn US and Britain over cancelled Navy visit

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Britain and the United States have been accused of meddling in Danish affairs in the run-up to a snap general election called for May 10. The accusation follows a British decision yesterday to cancel scheduled visits to four Danish ports by six warships, some of which have just completed Nato minesweeping manoeuvres in the North Sea. It is the latest move in a Nato crisis sparked by the decision of Denmark's Prime Minister, Mr Poul Schlüter, to call a snap election over his country's nuclear policy.

As an unusually bitter election campaign got under way, with the country's membership of the Nato alliance the main theme, Mr Svend Auken, the Opposition Social Democratic leader, said Britain and the United States were meddling in Danish domestic affairs. "The British and American Governments are Conservative Governments and I guess it is only human that they support the Conservative-led Government in Denmark," Mr Auken said. "I do not want a confrontation with people with whom I will have to work after the election — we expect to win in this poll. In the eyes of many Danes it is certainly interference," he said. The cancella-

tion of the British naval visits follows Nato's decision earlier in the week to move a meeting of defence ministers in the Nuclear Planning Group, scheduled for April 27 and 28, from Kolding, Jutland, in West Denmark, to Nato headquarters in Brussels.

Lord Carrington, the outgoing Nato Secretary-General, who was to have chaired the Kolding meeting, has postponed a farewell visit to Copenhagen (including luncheon with Queen Margrethe), also scheduled for next week.

According to Nato diplomats, the alliance felt that opponents of Mr Poul Schlüter, Denmark's Conservative Prime Minister and leader of the centre-right four-party minority Government, could have used the Kolding meeting to score political points, and therefore preferred to transfer the meeting to Brussels and await the election outcome.

The Government has taken an early lead in the first opinion poll to be published since it called the general election earlier this week. The poll, which appeared in *Børsen*, the Copenhagen financial daily, shows the ruling coalition gaining three seats to hold 73 of the 179 seats in the Folketing (parliament), with support for the left-wing opposition unchanged. If duplicated on May 10, the result would allow the Government to continue in a slightly stronger position, but would not solve the crisis over nuclear policy.

Last week an opposition motion tabled by the Social Democrats tightened up Denmark's peacetime ban on nuclear weapons on its territory by requiring the Government to inform visiting Nato warships individually that they must not bring nuclear arms into Danish ports.

The passing of that resolution has opened the second general election in Denmark within eight months, and a serious crisis within Nato. The United States and Britain have said that they cannot accept the Danish resolution and have warned that it would seriously affect plans to send in reinforcements to Denmark in wartime.

Elysée runners set for first big hurdle

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

At 8 am on the dot tomorrow, polling stations all over France will open for the nation's 38.3 million registered voters to begin the process of choosing a new President.

By the time the ballot boxes are collected at 6 pm (two hours later for the big cities), about four in every five French citizens will have made their choice from one of the nine candidates competing — some rather more hopefully than others — to contest the run-off exactly a fortnight later.

Only two go through in France's first-past-the-post system, and with M Francois Mitterrand already looking the safest of bets, the main interest lies in who will oppose him from the right. Unless the



Hands-on politicians (clockwise from left): M Mitterrand who looks set to win the first round of voting tomorrow in which M Barre is likely to be beaten by M Chirac for a place in the run-off, where the votes of M Le Pen could prove crucial.



ubiquitous opinion polls are badly out of line, it will be M Jacques Chirac. The same projections suggest that the present occupant of the Elysée Palace will go on to beat the present Prime Minister with something to spare.

A nation of individualists, the French are reputed to be fond of misleading pollsters and might still spring a few surprises. By tradition, they vote for their favourite candidate first time round, then against the man they least want to see installed as head of state.

Then there are the women

another new and potentially important factor in the 1988 campaign. To the uninitiated, some appear to employ suspect methodology, the instant popularity contests taken by computer during peak-time interviews while a candidate is still talking. But although the voting public, and working journalists, may have found the endless processions increasingly inane, French polls have an impressive track record when it comes to forecasting the outcome (including M Mitterrand's victory in 1981).

It was a poll in *Figaro Magazine* which concluded that almost 80 per cent of the French considered that television now exerts tremendous influence over the electorate

as a whole. Hard to prove, perhaps, since M Mitterrand has been limiting his small screen appearances with no apparent damage to his popularity.

It is equally hard to know whether TV is to blame for what veteran observers consider to have been an exceptionally lifeless campaign on the hustings. With rare exceptions, it has been a long, hard slog; too many rallies were just glitzy extravaganzas.

By the end of the trail, it was getting hard to remember which of the candidates had Johnny Hallyday singing rock and roll and which had trailed a notably bored looking Alain Delon across the platform while the inevitable light show flashed in the background.

There was a noticeable absence of good fun, too, always excepting the knockabout performances of the star of the Chirac camp, the Interior Minister, M Charles Pasqua, and some of M Jean-Marie Le Pen's robust asides.

Where was the 1988 equivalent of the late Michel Colucci, a music hall clown whose scathing opinions about the political process so enlivened proceedings seven years ago?

There were moments when a British observer might even have welcomed a guest performance from Screaming Lord Sutch, that veteran of many an election campaign, who happens to be topping the bill in a Parisian *bolshie*.

Leading article, page 11

Shroud cut for carbon date tests

Rome — Three small fragments have been cut out of the Turin Shroud — the burial cloth that may have been wrapped around Jesus Christ after the Crucifixion — and will be subjected to carbon dating in Britain, Switzerland and the United States, the Vatican announced yesterday (Roger Boyes writes).

Tornado toll

Dhaka — At least 36 people were killed and more than 300 injured when tornadoes hit three central Bangladesh districts, officials said.

Police swoop

Hong Kong (AFP) — Immigration officers said they have smashed a fake passport syndicate, believed to be the largest in the colony's history.

Plane crash

Maputo (AFP) — A relief plane crashed in the central Mozambican city of Quelimane, killing its Australian pilot and Irish co-pilot.

Film go-ahead

Peking (Reuters) — Chinese cinemas will screen the Oscar-winning film, *The Last Emperor*, despite controversy over its depiction of history, sex scenes and use of the Forbidden City for location shooting.

Gun rampage

Nairobi (AFP) — A Kenyan policeman was charged with murder for allegedly gunning down three people, including a colleague.

Air collision

East Berlin (Reuters) — An East German Air Force pilot died when his plane collided with another military aircraft on a training flight.

Coalition fails

Port Moresby (Reuters) — The effort by the Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, Mr Pias Wingti, to form a government of national unity with his main political rival, Mr Michael Somare, has collapsed.

Mafia arrests

Catania, Sicily (AP) — Police arrested 10 people in a raid on a seaside villa during a "summit" of Mafia figures.

Singapore crackdown Ministry backs latest arrests

The Government of Singapore has affirmed its resolve to punish severely critics perceived to be "subversive elements", regardless of allegations of human rights abuses. Rejecting a chorus of protests over the re-arrest of eight young dissidents this week, it said it would not be deterred from enforcing stringent security laws whenever it deemed them necessary.

The five women and three men were arrested under the Internal Security Act which provides for detention without trial, after complaining of police brutality while in prison last year. Mr Patrick Seow, a lawyer who had acted on their behalf, was also detained "in connection with the investigations".

The political activists and church workers were first imprisoned last May and June for alleged involvement in a Marxist conspiracy, but were released after making videotaped "confessions". This week they published an open letter denying the accusations and saying they had been coerced into making statements for television which had been distorted by editing and commentaries.

"We have never propagated, in words or in action, a communist state for Singapore," the letter said. They had advocated more democracy and respect for civil rights, but had never been involved in a communist plot.

During their detention, they said they had been deprived of rest for up to 70 hours and forced to stand for more than 20 hours in freezing cold rooms. Most of them had been struck in the face and one was doused repeatedly with water.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of a ninth signatory, Miss Tang Fong Har, a lawyer who is presently in Britain. Diplomatic sources said the Singaporean authorities have not requested her extradition.

Critics of the Government note that none of the detainees is accused of violence or of planning any specific act of violence, and conclude they are being persecuted purely for "thought-crime".

The Ministry of Home Affairs said they had been re-arrested because their statements indicated they would "resume their former activities". It dismissed the

letter as an attempt to generate publicity, trigger agitation by foreign human rights groups and put pressure on the Government. "No Singapore Government can afford to be deterred from using the (Security Act) by such tactics," it said.

The Ministry concluded: "Should the public interest again require the Government to detain subversive elements without trial, it will do so."

Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong, the Minister for Trade and Industry, denied that the dissidents had been mistreated but said they may have been subjected to "psychological pressure".

General Lee, the eldest son of the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, did not appear to be unduly concerned by criticism from abroad.

"Naturally we would like a good, friendly image, but what is more important to us is that we are able to deal with serious threats in our own way and according to our own standards."

The Law Society in Singapore and a group of 20 US congressmen have expressed deep concern over the latest arrests.

Mr Francis Seow, a lawyer representing two of the detainees, said he was issuing writs of habeas corpus on their behalf. Interviewed by telephone, he described the detentions as an act of monumental folly. "My feelings are of anger and disgust, mixed with bewilderment at what the Government is trying to achieve. Members of the Bar are just bloody fed up with what's going on here."

Mr J.B. Jeyaretnam, a former opposition member of Parliament, said the arrests amounted to institutionalized intimidation. "It is a complete disregard for law and order; the Government is acting like the mafia."

He was especially concerned about the arrest of Mr Seow, saying it would undermine the judicial system by making other lawyers afraid to act in similar cases.

Protests by the tiny opposition groups are unlikely to gain much support in Singapore's docile and rigidly-controlled society.

A Western diplomat said: "There will be muttering among young professionals... but there will be no rioting in the streets."

Splitting hairs in the battle for votes

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

A main difficulty facing the French in deciding how to vote has been the reluctance of any of the principal candidates to engage in straight talking on issues.

This is partly because of a convergence of views among the centre left and right, but also results from the unwillingness of the three main candidates to alienate the floating vote needed for the second round. But certain themes — such as Europe, immigration, the economy, unemployment, defence and education — have run through the campaign and differences in approach emerged.

President Mitterrand cited the challenges of Europe in the 1990s. Only he was capable of uniting France to prepare for a Europe "sans frontières". In 1992, M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, quickly took

up the theme, placing the emphasis on building an economically strong France capable of protecting its interests. M Raymond Barre has all along preached that there must be greater political incentives for investment if French industry is to compete.

Immigration, much to the satisfaction of M Jean-Marie Le Pen, the National Front candidate, has been one of the dominant themes, as it was in the 1986 general election.

The accent has been on whether non-French immigrants should be given any voting rights and if the Nationality Code should be reformed.

The reluctance on the right to alienate the National Front vote in the second round is demonstrated by M Chirac's refusal to provide answers in an immigration questionnaire

published in the left-of-centre newspaper *Libération* yesterday. Only M Mitterrand is considered to have stuck his neck out by stating that immigrants should have the right to vote in council elections. But this is not a new statement, and nothing was done to implement such a policy between 1981 and 1986 when the Socialists were in power.

M Chirac says that the ambitious privatization program, begun when his Government came to power in 1986 but halted after last October's Black Monday on the Bourse, will continue.

M Mitterrand says that he will neither continue this programme nor rationalize the companies already privatized. M Barre's position is unclear.

No one now talks of solving the unemployment problem, with the rate running at 10-11

per cent. Instead, the words used by the three main candidates are investment, development and education. All three want to bring in some form of minimum income for all the unemployed and underline the need to educate young people better to enable them to find jobs. But no one has had the courage to bring up the question of how to reform the present higher education system. It has been proved over the years to be the one subject that gets the French on the streets in force.

Consensus on French foreign policy means that it is one of the unmentionables in election campaigns. Nevertheless, M Mitterrand's Gavillist stand on France's nuclear deterrent as a vital means of preventing war, not winking it, has led M Chirac to underline his Government's military defence

spending and a wish to enlarge French nuclear options.

All three couple nuclear disarmament with a need to redress the conventional arms balance between the Soviet bloc and Europe.

While M Mitterrand emphasizes global disarmament and peace against nuclear stock-building and war, M Chirac stresses the dangers in conventional and chemical arms for Europe and M Barre warns of the perils of a decoupling between the US and Europe to Moscow's advantage. New Caledonia, the one area of foreign policy where there is a marked difference, M Mitterrand has stated that rights of both majority and minority must be considered in a form of self-government while M Chirac says a referendum shows the majority wants to stay French.

Credentials of the candidates

How the challengers measure up to Mitterrand

From Philip Jacobson and Susan MacDonald

M Francois Mitterrand (Socialist Party): At the age of 71, fighting his fourth presidential election, he hopes to become the first to serve two terms under the Fifth Republic.

Widely acknowledged as the most complete politician in the field, he is nicknamed "Le Florentin" for a devious touch, "Le Sphinx" for calculated impassivity, "Tonton" (Uncle) for his genuine popular appeal. M Mitterrand has all but abandoned the Socialist label under which he won in 1981, providing further ammunition for claims that he really sacrifices principle for personal advancement.

Of provincial bourgeois origins, M Mitterrand trained as a lawyer before distinguishing himself in the French Resistance. Entering politics to oppose De Gaulle, he served in almost a dozen ministries, created the present Socialist Party in 1981 and has dominated it ever since.

A complex, intensely private person, M Mitterrand kept France waiting to announce his candidacy, but the polls have vindicated the tactics of clinging to the aura of the presidency, the father of the nation rising above the vulgar political fray. Certain to survive the first round of voting.

M Jacques Chirac (RPR): The 55-year-old Prime Minister started the campaign slowly, but his furious energy and

limitless stamina quickly established him as the main conservative challenger. While extremely personable in private, his unabashed thirst for power and a certain pliability of conviction make it hard for the French to love him.

Despite a credible performance during the past two years of uncomfortable co-habitation with M Mitterrand, he retains a reputation for shooting from the hip rather than often, for cutting corners instinctively.

Starting in the civil service, he became an aide to President Pompidou, then launched into politics himself. Hand-picked as Prime Minister by M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in 1974, he quit two years later to build his own power base on Gaullist foundations. Standing against President Giscard d'Estaing in the 1981 election, M Chirac collected enough conservative votes to be blamed, reasonably, for ensuring the Socialist triumph. With characteristic tenacity, he bounced back to lead the right-wing coalition to power in the 1986 parliamentary elections.

M Raymond Barre (UDF): The self-styled "tortoise" of the campaign, this portly 64-year-old's insistence on addressing important issues in somewhat academic tones appears to have backfired. M Barre is undoubtedly the most serious of the main candidates. But without the support of a real party he is now struggling badly against M Chirac's well-oiled, lavishly

financed machine. Even so, his broadly centrist views and transparent decency kept him as the voters' favourite to challenge M Mitterrand in the second round.

Born on Réunion, in the Indian Ocean, M Barre was a respected professor of political

science. He was also a member of the National Front (National Front): The latest election posters proclaim this rugged looking 60-year-old as

"The Outsider" in the presidential stakes. M Le Pen knows he cannot survive the first round, but with between 12 and 13 per cent of the votes behind him, he seems certain to play a decisive role in the run-off. The heavy combination of xenophobia, patriotism and thinly veiled racism that he peddles has even won support from disenchanted voters on the far left.

The son of a Breton fisherman, M Le Pen was schooled by the Jesuits. After serving as a paratrooper officer in Vietnam, he was active in the Poujadist (conservative, reactionary movement to protect the interests of small traders), becoming an MP representing the populist group in 1956. More military service followed in Algeria, where opponents allege he was involved in ill-treatment of prisoners.

No longer a Poujadist, he founded the National Front in 1972. After a resounding failure in the presidential election two years later, he recovered well enough to make the decisive breakthrough with almost 11 per cent of the vote in the 1984 European elections. Since then, "Le Grand Perturbateur" has reshaped his disruptive role in French politics.

Mise Arlette Laguerle (Workers' Movement): A small, slim 48-year-old with a kind face and a simple, direct way of speaking, she is standing for a third time as a candidate in the French presidential elections. She is one of the four

petits candidats standing against the five major candidates in the first round of voting.

Like the other three, she is from the extreme left. She represented the Workers' Struggle party in the elections of 1976 and 1981 and, it is agreed, appears not to have lost her enthusiasm in the intervening years.

Opinion polls give Miss Laguerle 1 per cent of the vote, down on her 2.5 per cent last time.

M Pierre Juquin (Independent Communist): A dissident Communist, he is the most important of the "little" candidates. M Juquin, aged 58, is a man of considerable charm, who was once a star of the official Communist Party before trying to reform it into a strictly pro-Moscow line.

He stands at just under 3 per cent in the polls, not far behind M André Lajoinie, the official Communist Party candidate, with 6 per cent.

M Antoine Waechter (Greens): At 39 he has taken up the Greens' banner for the first time. Although people feel he talks sense, there is no great ecological or peace movement in France. At a predicted 2.5 per cent, he has yet to reach his predecessor's level of nearly 4 per cent.

M Pierre Boussel (Workers' Party): A member of the wartime Resistance, he is also a long-standing activist on the far left who managed to get the 500 official signatures needed to enter the race.

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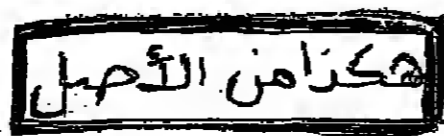
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US fears grow over effects of single European market

From Richard Owen in Brussels and Michael Dynes in London

The United States is becoming increasingly anxious about the political and economic implications of the drive to create a single European market by 1992, senior American officials in Brussels said yesterday.

Ironically, the American concern came as a survey of more than 200 European companies reported that almost 50 per cent of their executives thought the 1992 deadline for the creation of the unified market was unrealistic.

The US Embassy reported a "phenomenal increase" in inquiries about 1992 from American companies and individuals since the campaign got under way following the Brussels EEC summit on finance and farm reform three months ago.

Current American investment in the EEC amounts to an estimated \$100 billion (almost £53 billion) a year, and US firms employ nine million European citizens. One senior American official said: "The internal walls may come tumbling down, but you are reinforcing the outer walls."

Does this mean that when a US bank wants to open in London or Paris after 1992, the EEC will say no because there are too few Portuguese or Greek banks in the US?

In foreign policy, Washington detects a trend towards discussion of political and security issues within the EEC as part of the 1992 integration process. It is urging Community leaders to confine defence-related matters to Nato, where America has "a seat at the table".

Internal walls may fall, but outer walls are being built up

Secretary of State, meets European foreign ministers at Nato before they hold a separate gathering in Luxembourg later that day to discuss EEC foreign policy, including the Western response to hijacking.

One senior diplomat said: "The US-European relationship is evolving. There is a window of opportunity over the next six months, and we must use it to ensure that the transatlantic relationship gets on to a sounder footing."

The US Chamber of Commerce in Brussels said many American firms feared that the 1992 process would create a "protectionist" internal European market, promoting free movement of people, goods and services across EEC frontiers but excluding "third parties". This prospect has already alarmed the Scandinav-

vian countries, but is now prompting a rising tide of queries from US enterprises, a chamber spokeswoman said.

Yesterday's concern came as the House of Representatives in Washington passed the controversial US Trade Bill - seen in Europe as protectionist - despite the risk of a veto by Mr Reagan. US diplomats maintained that many protectionist clauses had been removed from the Bill (which has gone to the Senate), and it would be a mistake for the EEC to retaliate in a protectionist way.

But US officials warned that the EEC would have to be "more flexible" over farm trade and stop resisting the radical American plan for an end to all agricultural subsidies by the year 2000.

Community sources reported that Mr Frans Andriessen, the commissioner for agriculture, was "sick and tired" of being "put on the defensive" by Washington. The EEC had reformed its Common Agricultural Policy at the Brussels summit and was committed to a gradual reduction of subsidies within Gatt, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Diplomats said there was also growing concern about 1992 in Japan, whose companies in the EEC are being increasingly penalized by the Commission for operating so-called "screwdriver" plants.

These assemble products from parts manufactured outside Europe, mostly in Asia, and then market them in the

EEC. This week, Brussels imposed fines on four Japanese electronic typewriter manufacturers for "screwdriver" practices. Trade tensions with Tokyo are also on the agenda of next week's foreign ministers session in Luxembourg.

The Commission this week announced a £30-million research programme to enable European firms to compete with both Japan and America, and said several firms - including GEC, as well as Thomson SA,

The new US Trade Bill is seen in Europe as protectionist

of France, and the Dutch giant Philips - had applied for research funding.

The European executive survey, conducted by *The Wall Street Journal* and the management consulting firm Booz-Allen & Hamilton Inc, revealed that many corporate chiefs were not convinced that the single market would act as a boost to economic growth, or help European companies fend off competition from their US and Asian rivals.

Indeed many business leaders are sure that increased competition will only exacerbate Europe's tenacious unemployment problem, as European companies - deprived of their protected national markets - are confronted by successive waves of competition from both inside and outside the EEC.

South Korean students riot over polls



A South Korean student confronting a contingent of riot police during an anti-government demonstration at Chungang University in Seoul yesterday.

Throughout the day thousands of radical students were involved in running battles with police on the streets of the capital, as well as in Pusan and Kwangju (AP reports from Seoul).

The protesters called for the defeat of the Government in next Tuesday's National Assembly elections. "Down with

the dictatorship," and "Overthrow the ruling party," they chanted.

The clashes came as the Government deployed thousands of riot police across the nation to crack down on growing campaign violence.

The worst clash came at Joang University in Seoul when hundreds of riot police marched on to the campus to stop a march by students from nine colleges. Protesters hurled hundreds of stones and fire-bombs that exploded in sheets of burning petrol. Police replied with barrages of tear gas.

Police also used tear gas to break up a violent student protest in the southern opposition stronghold of Kwangju. Clashes were also reported at two other Seoul colleges and at Donggi University in Pusan.

Several injuries were reported in the clashes, but no overall figures of the casualties were available. TOKYO: North Korea yesterday accused South Korean soldiers of firing several rounds across the demilitarized zone on Thursday evening and of destroying some equipment at a guard post.

Lange sets out to melt EEC hearts over butter quota

From Richard Long, Wellington

When Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, argues his case in talks in London next week for continued access to Europe of his country's exported butter, it will be against a background of growing concern over what is seen as Britain's preoccupation with the EEC at the expense of old friends.

Before he left Wellington Mr Lange dismissed any argument based on emotions and said he would be putting New Zealand's case as the world's most efficient butter producer. But it is seen as significant that Mr Lange, who arrives in London tomorrow, will on Monday lay a wreath in the Anzac Day ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, in memory of New Zealanders who died on European and North African battlefields in two world wars.

He will also visit New Zealand's most efficient butter producer.



It is alien to have the most efficient producer locked out of the market for political reasons

Messines and Ypres later in the week.

The New Zealand case for continued market access may be based on hard-headed logic, as he says, but his advisers clearly see the advantage of utilizing a little sentiment as well.

New Zealanders are increasingly concerned that the sentimental ties between Britain and one of the most British of its former colonies are weakening. There is a general perception that the old Commonwealth is being shrugged off in Britain's drive for the new Europe.

The country at the far end of the world which once regarded itself as the food basket of Britain is increasingly unsure of whether it can accept British assurances that its interests will be upheld. Ominously, on the eve of Mr Lange's departure, the country's fruit growers were told that apple supplies to Europe would be cut by nearly 20 per cent on anticipated totals.

While that will force some growers out of business, New Zealand dairy farmers face an even more serious situation. They rely totally on the European market to keep afloat. The present 74,500-tonne butter quota to Europe, now under review, may be less than half the amount allowed when Britain joined the Community in 1973, but the £1 million price is the best

return New Zealand has for butter. It could not sell the same amount anywhere else for anything near the same price.

Mr Lange is not merely arguing for £1 million, but for the future of an unsubsidized dairy industry which, he says, while the most efficient producer in the world, is being driven from the market place by subsidized production from elsewhere.

Mr Lange said that the case he would present to Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, would go back to the issue of what the economies of the world were all about.

"It is quite alien to that type of thought to have the best, most efficient producer of the highest quality product locked out of the market for political reasons," he said.

There was a realism in the British Government's economic approach to such matters and a hard-headed approach by New Zealand could well be effective in London, he believed.

But Mr Lange at the same time acknowledged that this view would not necessarily prevail across Europe.

While Mr Lange is not noted for trading carefully, New Zealand officials say he will try to keep out of the minefield posed by the Danish moves on the issue of lifting nuclear warships. Mr Lange's Government bans visits by nuclear-powered ships or ships carrying nuclear weapons, a stance which has ended visits from the Royal Navy and the United States Navy and led to New Zealand's effective suspension from the Anzus alliance with the US and Australia.

Mr Lange has so far refused to comment on the Danish moves.

But any attempt by him to send encouraging signals to the Danish anti-nuclear lobby is seen as likely to bring down the wrath of Mrs Thatcher on his head - and to leave him with butter on his face rather than on British plates.

Speeding row: The New Zealand Justice Department has apologized to Mr Lange for taking more than a year to prosecute him for speeding, and then sending the receipt for his fine to another man (Reuter reports).

Mr Lange said the fine showed that no one was above the law. He revealed that the case was more than a year old and criticized the Justice Department for taking so long to prosecute.

"The whole saga is not something of which I am particularly proud," the head of the department's court division said in the report published yesterday.

The matter came to light early this month when an Auckland man received court papers and a receipt for 285 dollars (£100). They carried Mr Lange's name and home address. The report said that the offence happened on December 26, 1986, but because of a computer mix-up Mr Lange did not receive formal notice until February 25 this year. The fine was actually imposed on March 3 and paid on March 29.

A CUT ABOVE

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TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

This time last year we contemplated the hideous fate of the first team ever to be thrown out of the Football League as an automatic punishment for finishing bottom of the fourth division. What fools we were: Lincoln City, cast into the wastes of the GM Vauxhall Conference, have never had it so good. Their fight to get straight back has done wonders for the club and, what's more, promises to be successful. Last Saturday their match against Walsworth attracted 33 sports writers, half a dozen photographers and two video teams, and the match was featured on radio's *Sport on 2*. The crowd was 4,159; the average for the season is 3,349. Last year in the fourth division, it was 2,022. Money from fund-raising activities is up, and this season the club has opened a new £900,000 stand.

Lincoln have a crucial match today at Kettering. Believe it or not, it is all-ticket, with a limit of 4,000. Lincoln sold their allocation of 800 in two hours. On Easter Monday Lincoln's home game attracted 7,522, their best crowd for six years. On this showing I can only assume that clubs at the bottom of the fourth division must be praying for relegation.

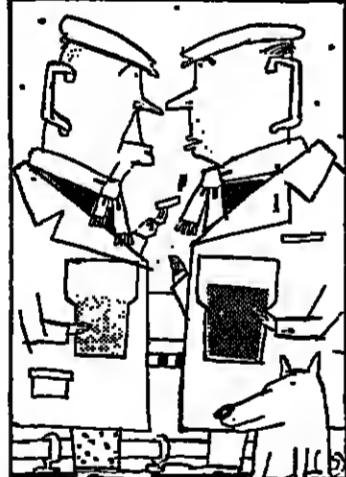
Lincoln manager Colin Murphy certainly deserves attention for these thoughts from last week's programme: "Thinking that the race is won by hurling the last hurdle is always dangerous and the 'breasting of the tape' will possibly be an age from the last hurdle itself whether you be directors, supporters or management. However, as always, success often or always develops their circumstances and maybe it is a more dignified and testing trial to deal with products rather than product." You can't argue with facts like that, can you?

Quote of the Week: from Raymond Hubbard, who last weekend ran three marathons in three days, in Belfast, London and Boston, USA, each in less than three hours: "I think it was probably the hardest weekend in my 34 years."

One of the nice things about writing this column is the occasional receipt of gold brought to me by the postman. The other week I wrote about a former Grand National winner called Tipperary Tip. R.E.F. Maloney wrote to tell me: "The 1928 Grand National was won by Tipperary Tim, he was 100-1, and my father backed him. My share of the spoils was a J.B. Hobbs Force XXXX cricket bat."

The routine way to get ahead in English cricket is to acquire for yourself what Bob Willis once called the "latest nuclear weapon from the West Indies". This is the way the counties go, and this has long been the way of the northern league clubs. The awesome West Indian bowler Eldine Baptiste was leading wicket-taker for Kent last season, but at its close he was released. He had an offer from Oldham — but instead has joined St Gluvias, of the Cornwall Senior League. He will play on a tiny ground just outside Penryn for a fee for the season of around £10,000, to be paid by a Falmouth motor company called Dales. By one of those cosmic coincidences a Dales director, Andrew Ayres, is chairman and a playing member of St Gluvias.

BARRY FANTONI



Our Jack's a bit of a gambler. He's backing Liverpool for the league!

In my opinion you are either a green-welly person or a yellow-welly person: horse people and yacht people can surely have no common ground, and I say this with all the conviction a horse-person can muster. Chay Blyth, the renowned yachtsman, has attempted to disprove this theory, and look where it has got him. He is even now preparing to sail in the Carlsberg Single-handed Transatlantic Race with his leg — broken in a riding accident — in plaster from the knee down. His boat is thought to have little chance of winning; but there is much speculation that Blyth will use it later to try to break the record from New York to San Francisco via Cape Horn. Blyth tried it once before, was shipwrecked, spent nine hours waiting for rescue, and swore he would never do it again. But you know what yachting people are — just as stupid as us horse people, now I think of it.

Brendan Powell's Grand National victory a fortnight ago was something of a miracle. For he managed it without his St Christopher medal and his cross. His mother had brought both from Lourdes, and Powell had sewn them inside a jumper, which he has worn every race day for the past six years. Powell's car was stolen at Easter and, though it was recovered, his riding gear, with the magic jumper, was missing. But Powell, saying his customary two Hail Marys and one Our Father before the race, won the National, thanks to a genuinely miraculous recovery at Becher's, and so collected the winning jockey's Citroën car as a bonus: a day for rejoicing indeed, St Christopher medal or not.

In Moscow on Wednesday, the Soviet Union accepted the plans for a baseball stadium to be built in the Lenin Hills outside Moscow. The plans were presented by Sigeyosi Matsumae, president of the Japanese university, Tokai, that designed it, and came with a gift of nearly £2 million to help build it. The Soviet Union officially recognized baseball two years ago, now has 30 teams and last month became the 65th member of the World Baseball Association.

This has not been the best of weeks for the National Theatre. On Tuesday it was announced that Sarah Miles would not, after all, be making her long-awaited return to the stage as Imogen in Sir Peter Hall's vaudeville production of *Cymbeline* because she was "unhappy with the role", which must have come as a sharp shock to Shakespeare. Sir Peter was also said to be "shattered and deeply disappointed".

By Wednesday the volatile but eccentrically talented Miss Miles was announcing that she had been sacked, though Sir Peter was still talking about "mutual unhappiness". By Thursday it was further revealed that another actor with a considerably longer and more distinguished classical record, Robert Eddison, had also disappeared from the production and there was the strong suggestion from his agent that his resignation had been, to say the least, "invited" by the director. By yesterday, the opening of *Cymbeline* had been postponed for at least three days.

National departures inevitably make more news than a minor casting change at the leatherhead Rep, but it is more than a little unfortunate that Sir Peter's own farewell season on the South Bank should get off to such a shaky start with a violent series of backstage comings and

goings so close to the May openings. This seems to raise a central issue of National management which could well be looked at carefully in the change-over from Hall to the new National director, Richard Eyre, who takes over in the autumn.

In Russia about 15 years ago, Trevor Nunn, who was then in sole charge of the Royal Shakespeare Company, and I were taken to meet the director of the Moscow Art Theatre, a man of Falstaffian proportions who sat behind a vast desk beneath a suitably huge golden seagull to symbolize his company's Chekhovian origins. Accustomed to the usual Hall and Nunn doubling of office and stage work at the National and the RSC, I asked him through the interpreter what play he was himself currently directing.

"There was a very long pause. 'Me?' he echoed in some disbelieving 'Rehearsing? I run the Moscow Art Theatre. This is regarded in the Soviet Union as a full-time job. I have directors

who rehearse plays, actors who appear in them and designers who work on the sets. I myself do not have the time."

Looking across his office at Trevor Nunn, I said then, and I will say again now, that this seemed to me a perfectly admirable and enviable arrangement. No man running an organization of the size and complexity of the National or the RSC should also be expected to direct plays there, let alone avoid problems in rehearsal. Many other directors on the South Bank might well have got casting troubles from which Hall is now suffering, but other directors there don't also have to worry about what is going on across three stages plus a restaurant and an art gallery and a bookshop, not to mention an underground car park.

If another director at the National had sacked a couple of actors, or perhaps even invited them to resign, that would not have made headlines, precisely

Sheridan Morley urges a division of authority at the National

Too much off-stage drama

As good luck would have it, Richard Eyre now moves into office with an unusually able and powerful administrator in David Aukin: if they can achieve a genuine partnership of equals, with Eyre in rehearsal and Aukin in the office, then it might be possible, just possible, to avoid some of the traumas which occur when an individual production runs into deep trouble and its director is also the figurehead for the whole backstage and on-stage operation of the building.

Even if Hall had not chosen to spend some of his National time at Glynedebourne and other addresses, it is still debatable whether he could have got the theatre into much better shape backstage while also directing his own productions there, and much of the discontent that one senses in talking to actors at the National (and, in all fairness, at the Barbican too) is concerned with a leadership which doesn't have the time to look after the company, essentially because it too is closeted in rehearsal.

We do not expect the director of British Airways to fly the aeroplanes out of Heathrow as well, and the sooner we accept the need for powerful subsidized-company administrators, the sooner it will be possible to emerge from backstage chaos. The problem is that this country, unlike most in Europe, has never bred star administrators. Actors and directors have always been regarded as natural company leaders, and the pendulum has always swung between them.

Just as star actors often felt unable to work with the National as long as Olivier was calling the shots, so star directors have often felt unhappy there under Hall — why else would the company have lost such talents as those of Michael Blakemore and Jonathan Miller?

A non-rehearsing administrator could solve many of those ego problems, and might even be able to attract back into the fold such actor-managers as Keanagh Branagh and Anthony Quayle, who have for the time being felt obliged to go it alone. Until we get that balance of power adjusted, we shall forever have to live with backstage crises which somehow suggest that tax-paid money is even more than usually at risk.

The author is Arts Editor and drama critic of *Punch*.

Conor Cruise O'Brien Playing to an IRA gallery

Charles Haughey's New York outbreak was not just an indiscretion or off-the-cuff response to the taunts of Irish-American sympathizers with the IRA. It has been building up for some time. Ever since Sir Patrick Mayhew's clumsily-worded announcement that there would be no further investigation into the Royal Ulster Constabulary's alleged "shoot to kill" policy, the Dublin government has been encouraging anti-British tendencies in the Irish media.

It is not that resentment at Sir Patrick's statement deflected Haughey from a policy — the operation of the Anglo-Irish Hillsborough Agreement — to which his government had seemed committed. The fact is that Haughey saw his opportunity to get off the hook of a policy, and an agreement, which he had always disliked.

Since he formed his present government, by the narrowest of possible margins, Haughey has had an aching problem with the agreement. On the one hand, it was popular with the electorate. So it wouldn't do just to tear it up, not with another election possibly round the corner.

On the other hand the agreement was deeply unpopular with a section of his own party, and this happened to be the very section which had done most to make him leader, and to back his leadership against the dissidents. The agreement — with the related issue of extradition of terrorist suspects — brought the Haughey loyalists to the verge of mutiny last year: a most disturbing state of affairs for the leader of Fianna Fáil.

It is probable also that Haughey shares many of the feelings of those devoted followers of his. In terms of the general Irish republican tradition, to a branch of which Haughey and his friends belong, the Hillsborough Agreement is a monstrosity. In terms of that

tradition, the agreement means co-operating with the British forces of occupation in helping them to maintain and govern the artificial entity called "Northern Ireland" which Britain invented in order to keep Ireland divided.

So when those demonstrators in New York yelled "Traitor!" and "Collaborator!" Haughey must have winced, feeling the force of the charges. But he would have kept his wincing to himself, had he not judged that the political climate in Ireland is propitious for a forthright republican declaration. He may perhaps turn out to be wrong about how propitious the climate is. But he has certainly some good grounds for believing that anti-British feeling is at present sufficiently high for such a statement to be acceptable.

Haughey doesn't want to be seen, even now, as the man who broke off the agreement. But what if the British themselves can be portrayed as breaking it, at least in the spirit? That is how many in the Republic regard Sir Patrick Mayhew's statement, the outcome of the appeal by the Birmingham Six and the shooting of the three IRA bombers in Gibraltar.

This tactic has been working pretty well up to now but in his New York statement Haughey may have over-reached himself.

In Ireland there is a right and a wrong way of sounding anti-British. The right way is to do it discreetly. Jack Lynch was so good at it that he could sound anti-British to an Irish audience without the British ever noticing. And Lynch, unlike Haughey, was a man who won overall parliamentary majorities for Fianna Fáil.

Haughey, who ousted Lynch from the party leadership, cannot be expected to achieve Lynchian standards in discretion. But on the whole, up to New York, he had handled his present anti-British line pretty well. He managed to sound like a man who was doing his best to

co-operate with the British, who for their part were making things impossible for him. Quite acceptable, all that. But New York was an exercise in overt Brit-bashing, and looked like an effort to please — or appease — an Irish-American pro-IRA gallery. That is unlikely to go down well with middle-of-the-road people in Ireland. The Irish-American super-patriots are not all that popular in Ireland. They come across and tell us, the Irish in

Ireland, that we are not patriotic enough to meet the exacting standards of those who left their country for good.

Even had it not been for that Irish-American gallery, I think the statement will still be likely to hurt Haughey politically as soon as its effects on Anglo-Irish relations are felt. If his government does indeed have as its "central driving

ambition" the creation of a united Ireland, then this is an inappropriate government for a people which is not in the grip of any such central driving ambition but just wishes Northern Ireland would stop. One reason the Anglo-Irish Agreement was so popular — once — was that it created a feeling that somehow the Northern Ireland problem had been solved, by an accord between "the two sovereign governments".



Nonsense, of course, but soothing nonsense. Haughey's New York nonsense, on the other hand, is the alarming kind. It's too close to the way the IRA talk and those who like the way the IRA talk are a small minority in the Republic of Ireland. And Haughey, personally and politically, would be well advised to avoid sounding like the IRA. That can arouse disturbing echoes. Was there not something a bit odd, back in 1970, or around there? And didn't Jack Lynch say something then about "a shadow of suspicion" lingering over Haughey?

True, the Brit-bashing line is going great guns with the Haughey loyalists in Fianna Fáil. But Haughey's chronic problem is that what pleases those people tends to offend the very people whose support he needs if he is ever to win an overall majority. Also, overt exercises in Brit-bashing tend to frighten the business community, which has been quite well disposed towards Haughey as long as he could keep his Anglophobe tendencies and associations under control.

All in all, I think that unless Haughey can draw back a bit, his present line may damage Fianna Fáil in the next elections. But it will be very hard for him to draw back, now that the emotions of his followers have been fanned by his own words.

There are, however, few indications so far that the New York speech has yet done any harm to Haughey. The Dublin media has played down the Brit-bashing aspects of the speech, and in any case Hillsborough has lost most of its charm. But as the accelerating deterioration in Anglo-Irish relations becomes clearer to people in the Republic, I think that Haughey's effort to put all the blame for that on to the British may fail to convince the floating voters when the election comes round.

Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

The gaffer speaks

Washington

The Larry Speakes episode, a Joyous festival of hypocrisy, ended on a poignant note when he lost his job. Speakes, President Reagan's former spokesman, had been hired at a huge salary by the financial giant Merrill Lynch & Co, which sacked him after the fuss over revelations — in his own newly published memoirs — that he occasionally made up quotes for Reagan. No doubt he had been making up quotes for Merrill Lynch executives as well — what else does a "vice-president for Corporate Communications" do? But by publishing his kiss-and-tell memoir he squandered his only real asset: friendship with those in power.

Made-up quotes are the heart of a thousand daily press releases. It might be nice if the president's press operation could be of a higher standard, but everyone knows this is a president who needs a script to say "Good morning" when a couple of senators drop by his office.

One of the quotes Speakes admits to fabricating was Reagan's reported remark at the 1985 Geneva summit. You only have to picture the scene to realize it is phoney. Imagine Reagan actually saying to Gorbachev: "Our differences are serious, but so is our commitment to improving understanding."

Yet one of television's star White House correspondents professed himself "dabberged" to learn that such a conversational gem was never uttered. The real joke is that this correspondent, like every journalist covering official life throughout the world, reports this sort of pap with a straight face every day. My favourite outrage reaction was that of a former press secretary to Pres-

ident Lyndon Johnson who declared huffily that he would never put out a made-up quote without making sure the president had seen it beforehand.

Speakes' book is the *reductio ad absurdum* of two publishing fashions. One is the fad for memoirs by big shots, ghost written by professional hacks in a sub-literary conversational style. It started with the phenomenal success several years ago of an autobiography "by" Lee Iacocca, the chairman of Chrysler Corporation.

Two things make Speakes' product, ghosted by one Robert Pack, especially absurd. First, he never was a real big shot. He was just a minor character who got his job by guesstimate chance (when his superior was shot during the assassination attempt on Reagan). Second, although his only claim to fame is as a spokesman for someone else, he needs a third party to put words into his own mouth for a book. Sub-specialization in the plagiarist industry has really gone too far.

Mr Hack, I mean Pack, doesn't strain himself. When Speakes sat in the Oval Office, "I felt a cold shudder going down my spine... What's a kid from a dusty little cotton town in Mississippi doing here?" When Reagan heard about the Challenger disaster, he "had the saddest look on his face I have ever seen." And so on.

The other unfortunate development is that publishers hungering for Washington memoirs do not want a rounded portrait, let alone a serious discussion of public affairs, but rather little scooped-up news that will make the front page. That, apparently, sells books, which is odd. Why shell out \$19.95 for a book when you've

already read all the juicy stuff in the papers? Publishers, I suspect, assume — correctly — that many books become bestsellers for reasons other than an actual desire to read them.

So the publisher hires a ghost to plumb the author's brain for "scoops". But scoops of a particular kind. For example, Reagan's former budget director, David Stockman, made headlines by saying in his memoirs that Reagan's tax cuts favoured the rich and would lead to huge deficits. Hardly news, the news was that Stockman said it.

Thus, in a weird twist of the hoary Washington practice of leaving office and cashing in, insiders are now in the business of selling their own gaffes. A gaffe is when a politician tells the truth — some obvious truth he isn't supposed to say. Capitalizing on the media's huge appetite for gaffes, insiders now manufacture them for profit.

Like cultured pearls, manufactured gaffes are more perfectly shaped but somehow less aesthetically pleasing than the natural kind. Since Speakes' views on any serious issue are of no conceivable interest, his manufactured gaffes consist entirely of insults to his former colleagues. Ed Meese is an "ideologue". Caspar Weinberger "a hard-liner, a small man, a whiny type of guy." Reagan "delegates many... duties to his subordinates" while Nancy is powerful behind the scenes and would "stah you in the back".

All this is deadly Washington cliché by now. It would be far more interesting if Speakes were to report that Reagan is actually a stickler for detail, Nancy is sweet and sensuous, and Weinberger is really six feet four. The author is editor of *New Republic*.

SCIENCE REPORT

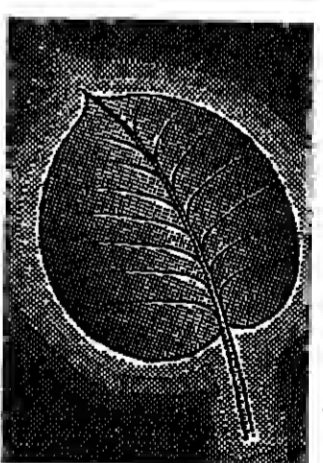
Shedding light

Some remarkable plants that fluoresce with an amethyst hue under ultraviolet light can be seen on the front cover of *Science* (April 15). What is more, they have a sweet aroma absent from the normal species of which the fluorescent variety is a mutant.

Unfortunately, from the gardener's point of view, the mutant lacks vigour. But these properties are largely fortuitous and irrelevant to the geneticists who describe the mutant. Their coup is to have produced, by careful planning, the first plants that lack the ability to make a full complement of amino acids, the chemical building blocks of proteins. They hope that their discoveries will help provide details of plant metabolism.

Robert Last and Gerald Fink of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology work on a weed called *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Common Wall Cress) favoured by geneticists because its genetic material is modest in quantity and uncomplicated in arrangement.

To select their mutant, Last and Fink grew *Arabidopsis* plants in the presence of a substance called anthranilate. This is normally broken down as soon as it is made by an enzyme called anthranilate phosphoribosyl transferase. But the gene for this enzyme is defective in the mutant plants so anthranilate accumulates in them; and, quite incidentally, anthranilate fluoresces. This allows the mutants requiring tryptophan to be easily distinguished from normal plants under an ultraviolet lamp.



David Hart

thrive only on water and minerals. The mutant must have a defect in the biochemical pathway by which the plant normally makes its own tryptophan. It was known from classical research on microbes that the defect was likely to be in an enzyme responsible for one of the steps in the pathway. A defective enzyme will leave a backlog of some intermediate biochemical somewhere along the line.

In the case of the fluorescent plants, the intermediate is a substance called anthranilate. This is normally broken down as soon as it is made by an enzyme called anthranilate phosphoribosyl transferase. But the gene for this enzyme is defective in the mutant plants so anthranilate accumulates in them; and, quite incidentally, anthranilate fluoresces. This allows the mutants requiring tryptophan to be easily distinguished from normal plants under an ultraviolet lamp.

They are also distinguished by their small leaves and bushy appearance. And their profuse flowers are not as fertile as those of the normal plants. For some reason, feeding the mutants with tryptophan does not restore them to normal healthy vigour. Last and Fink think that many of the abnormal features of the mutants, especially their bushiness, could be related to hormonal balance.

Normal plant growth is believed to be controlled by a hormone called auxin. This substance is chemically related to tryptophan and may be derived from it. Any deficiency in tryptophan metabolism could affect the levels of auxin in the plant tissues.

Apart from the plants' novelty value, the research will excite interest because it applies tried and trusted lab methods to produce new varieties of plant. New-tech genetic engineering is nowhere to be seen. Rather than introducing foreign genes, Last and Fink exploit the plant's inherent genetic potential to explore their biochemistry and generate new varieties.

And because many aspects of plant biochemistry are still unknown, they say the process of making the mutants, not just the final result, was instructive. Mutants such as these are valuable test beds for ideas about metabolism. The glow of these particular mutants may eventually illuminate the secrets of plant hormones, and the way plants grow.

JOHN MADDOX

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مكرا من الامل

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRESIDENTIAL POWERS

France begins voting tomorrow for the great office of which this year is the 30th anniversary...

Thirty years after the first United States presidential election, the President was a distinguished man (James Monroe)...

The interests of America's allies, and enemies, are at stake in the outcome of such constitutional dispute...

Until two years ago, President Mitterrand was the partisan politician he had been all his long career...

But M. Mitterrand, having lost the Assembly, could play the dignified head of state...

What had happened was that, between 1986 and now, the institution of the presidency had evolved...

presidential, like one form of power to be balanced by another.

In the end cohabitation will confuse France, and her allies, just as the balance between President and Congress has often done in the United States...

None has been re-elected by the mass franchise so far. M. Mitterrand is at present favourite to be re-elected because of that fettering in 1986...

Time is the probable explanation. It is very difficult for any partisan politician to be popular at the end of seven years...

But he also proposes that the Prime Minister, as the embodiment of a parliamentary majority, should only be dismissed by Parliament instead of — as now — by the President...

A Prime Minister permanently at the Assembly's mercy would plunge France and her allies back into the successive governments and parliamentary opportunism...

HACKING AT THE LAW

New technology leads to new forms of crime, and often needs new law to prevent it. The law of theft, for instance, was found inadequate to deal with joy-riding...

The parliamentary programme is very crowded. The issues are very complex. And it does not follow from one Lord's judgement that this is a matter which needs the urgent attention of the legislators...

A hacker is anyone who finds the means to communicate with a computer system in defiance of certain measures built into the system to stop him doing so...

The average amateur hacker has become so fascinated by computing that this simple protocol is an affront to his ingenuity...

The legal premise behind the recent prosecution of two hackers was that such behaviour is a criminal offence under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act...

HALFWAY ACROSS THE RUBICON

There is a great deal less than meets the untutored eye in President Botha's latest announcement of a new constitutional deal for South Africa's voteless blacks...

The Heath Robinson devices which the South African Government markets as constitutional models are always fascinating in their attempts to address the great central question of South African political life...

True, he has suggested the creation of regional bodies which black South Africans not resident in the homelands can elect to manage their "own affairs"...

The plan is both elaborate in conception and vague in detail, but it bears all the well-known hallmarks of Pretoria's constitutional tinkers...

ethnic bureaucracies. It would be easy to forgive Mr Botha for continuing down this unpromising path if it had yielded one positive result...

But this is no longer Mr Botha's primary concern. Instead, after the by-election shocks earlier this year which convinced the Government that Mr Botha could lead it to its first defeat in 40 years...

Dr Treurnicht, who seems set to score major gains in the nationwide municipal elections later this year, has played up the Government's failure to produce a coherent plan for South Africa's constitutional future...

The South African President could find once again that, by trying to reassure all South Africans, right and left, black and white, he has pleased none...

Role of Lords in poll tax clash

From Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, KG, CH, FRSE Sir, From my reading of the Commons Hansard in yesterday's debate it seems to have been accepted by Mr Mates and the Leader of the Opposition that Government or other amendments to the community charge could lawfully be made in the House of Lords.

This is contrary to my understanding of the Constitution as declared in Erskine May (20th edition, pp.842 and following) and Halsbury's Laws of England, 4th edition, vol. 34, s. 5. Parliament at paras 1021, and 1022 and following.

The community charge is, I believe, in "the sole gift of the Commons", under the Constitution as it now exists. The privileges of the Commons in this respect are quite independent of the money Bill provisions of the Parliament Act 1911...

The passage in Erskine May makes it clear that, save in the case of private Bills, where the Commons "do not insist" on their privilege, the privilege has long been regarded as applying to rates and other local impositions as well as taxes and that the true version of the privilege is now and always has been that imposition of any general rate, tax or charge "is in the sole gift of the Commons"...

Equality in sport British sport is controlled by a collection of ramshackle associations comprising the Sports Council, the British Olympic Association, and the Central Council of Physical Recreation...

Equality in sport British sport is controlled by a collection of ramshackle associations comprising the Sports Council, the British Olympic Association, and the Central Council of Physical Recreation...

Delay at customs From Mr N. A. Tatham Sir, Returning recently by car ferry from Calais to Dover, I was irritated by the long delay occasioned by my passing through the "red" channel to declare two cases of champagne...

Musical aid From Lady Barbirolli Sir, On February 18 your Spectrum page reported on the problems produced for young musicians by the high prices of musical instruments...

Disaster planning From Mr B. H. Harvey Sir, Air Commodore Innes's statement (April 14) that the "Seveso" directive compelled the British Government to deal with major industrial hazards is almost the exact opposite of the facts...

Through the fog From Mr David Mason Sir, Your report (April 12) of the Metropolitan Police's efforts to improve the standard of English throughout the force was read with great interest in this department...

From Mr Tim Rathbone, MP for Lewes (Conservative) Sir, Might I suggest that there is a most important constitutional point implicit in your first leader today (April 20) which should be made explicitly...

From the Reverend J. Bogle Sir, I live in a street in inner London where I have black neighbours on either side and across the street I work in a church with black people and minister regularly to black families...

From Mr T. G. Stanton Sir, Viscount Tenby's letter (April 18) misses the point. He says "Is it right that Mammon should have all the big guns, and is this one of the more unacceptable faces of a free market economy?"...

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Living in peace with blacks

From the Reverend J. Bogle Sir, I live in a street in inner London where I have black neighbours on either side and across the street I work in a church with black people and minister regularly to black families...

I do not regard this as cause for fearfulness or feeling threatened. Why should I? Rather do I rejoice in these friendships...

Mr Enoch Powell (article, April 19) foresees the breakdown of peace and good government from the presence of coloured immigrants and their offspring...

For them to do so, all planning controls need to be abolished. When that happens, adequate numbers of houses will be built without restraint at prices people can afford in places where they want to live...

The infrastructure would follow because without it people would not move. At the moment they have no choice but to move, infrastructure or not...

In this area we have the ludicrous situation where people who have fought for years to preserve their quality of life by preventing development in their villages are now complaining that the village shops and post-offices and other amenities, including small schools, are closing...

I am sure that this would not only save much time and frustration but also increase revenue. Yours sincerely, N. A. TATHAM, 14 George Street, Bedford, April 19.

Words of wisdom From the Vicar of Chelsea Old Church Sir, When Mr and Mrs Murphy (April 20) bring their child to be christened their local vicar will help them to see the profound depth of meaning and truth in the baptism service...

Meanwhile, advice sought and given by my late brother, as he drove with his daughter to her wedding, would seem to pass the test: "Keep the commandments and keep out of debt"...

From Miss M. E. Jelley Sir, What will remain true throughout the life of Mr John Murphy's as yet unborn child is that death is certain, but that it matters most what he or she does with the space in between...

From Mrs F. J. Harrison Sir, I would suggest — alas — "The world is an increasingly treacherous jungle"...

From Brigadier R. Rhoderick-Jones Sir, "Mummy and Daddy love you"...

From Mr Leslie Harry Hart Sir, What statement remains true throughout a lifetime? — "Nothing lasts"...

From Mr Andrew Wilkes Sir, "You never can tell"...

From Mr Andrew Wilkes Sir, "You never can tell"...

From Mr Andrew Wilkes Sir, "You never can tell"...

From Mr A. G. Trevnen James Sir, In writing of his "Fears that have not changed" has Mr Enoch Powell overlooked the fact that it is a Commonwealth immigrant (Mr Ravi Tikko) who is hoping to create thousands of jobs for shipyard workers in Belfast (report, April 20) and that it, when elderly, Mr Powell is hospitalised he will have a good chance of being cared for by immigrant auxiliary workers, nurses and doctors?

Yours faithfully, A. G. TREVVENEN JAMES, Flat 7, 125 Harley Street, W1.

From Mr Gavin Littaur Sir, In 1968 I read with dismay a full report of Mr Enoch Powell's "rivers of blood" speech which, I note, he has just commemorated and endorsed by means of an extended article. I still find Mr Powell's view to be profoundly misguided.

Curiously, he congratulates himself for finding evidence to support his position that nearly 10 per cent of the population of Great Britain will consist of "ethnic minorities" by the year 2000. But is it an offence to be in a growing minority?

If the present "majority" were to become a shameful "minority", to which country would Mr Powell — assuming he would still be in rude health — feel obliged to emigrate? May I suggest South Africa, where instigators of racial prejudice, both hind and sophisticated, might still be acclaimed by captivated audiences.

Yours faithfully, GAVIN LITTAUR, 24 Stormont Road, Highgate, N6, April 19.



ON THIS DAY

APRIL 23 1934

The British soon shone at gliding: Philip Wills, CBE (1907-1978) was world champion in the single-seater contest in 1952 and F. N. Slingsby, MM (1894-1973) was a famous maker of winning sailplanes. Both were in at the founding of the Sutton Bank site.

NATIONAL GLIDING SCHOOL SITE SECURED IN YORKSHIRE

From Our Aeronautical Correspondent

The first steps are being taken to establish a British gliding school similar to the famous German centre at the Wasserkuppe. The site at Sutton Bank, 20 miles north of York, has been obtained on lease from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. A number of previous tenants have surrendered their shooting rights. A hangar and clubhouse are to be erected forthwith and the National School of Soaring Flight will probably be opened at the beginning of August.

This site, between the White Horse and Roulston Scar, about seven miles from Thirsk, is as good a soaring site as anything of the sort in Germany. It has both a westerly and southerly slope. It is 600ft above the surrounding country, and on the westerly side there is a bowl-shaped formation which serves admirably as a scoop for deflecting the wind upwards. The British Gliding Association has secured control of this land, which measures about 500 yards by 400 yards, and intends to enclose it and proceed with preparations.

The characteristics of Sutton Bank were tested in October, when a series of competitions was held there. The meeting was most successful, and at one time nine gliders were soaring 1,000ft above the ridge at the same time. The alternative faces at the end of the ridge increase the chance of good soaring conditions, but the height of the launching ground is still more important. The headquarters of the London Gliding Club on Dunstable Downs is only 200ft above the surrounding country. An additional 400ft may make all the difference to the height and duration of a soaring flight.

At the present stage in British soaring flight the disparity is not due to lack of skill nor wholly to lack of high-efficiency machines. Given a good launching site the band of British pilots produced by the London Gliding Club could probably challenge German pilots using similar machines. This is a notable achievement in a movement which has had only four years in which to establish itself. In 1930 gliding was revived in this country, and something like 100 clubs were started. Very few have survived, but among them is the London Club, which has been probably the most efficient unsubsidized gliding school in the world...

The British Gliding Association has delegated control of the scheme to a committee consisting of Messrs Philip Wills (London), Norman Sharpe (Bradford) and F. Slingsby (Scarborough). When the school opens pupils will be able to take dual instruction in soaring machines, and it is hoped that the prospect of good soaring conditions will attract pilots of powered aeroplanes, who have hitherto had few opportunities to study the behaviour of air currents.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 22: The Prince Edward attended a Gala Evening at the Oast Theatre...

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Kent...

The Princess Royal, President, Federation Equestre Internationale, left Royal Air Force Lyneham in an aircraft...

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam is in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 22: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon opened the East Wing of the Princess Christian Homes...

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 22: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning received the President...

YORK HOUSE
April 22: The Duke of Kent arrived at Royal Air Force Marham this evening from Switzerland.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this afternoon attended the final Audition of the Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship...

Lady Gabriella Windsor is six today. Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage tomorrow.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr M.A. Anson, former chairman, Wessex Water Authority, 64; Mrs Shirley Temple Black, former actress and American diplomat, 60; the Most Rev Michael Bowen, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark, 58; Mr Bill Cotton, former managing director, BBC Television, 60; Lord Carew, 83; Mr Antony Craxton, television producer, 70; Mr J.P. Donlevy, author, 82; the Earl of Drogheda, 78; Baroness Dudley, 81; the Hon Victoria Glendinning, author, 52; Sir Arnold Hall, former chairman, Hawker Siddeley Group, 73; Mrs James Kirkup, travel writer, novelist and playwright, 65; Dr R.M. Laws, master, St Edmund's College, Cambridge, 62; Lord McAlpine of Moffat, 81; Colonel R.A.S.G. Martin, Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, 74; Sir Thomas Padmore, civil ser-

Muslim need for leadership against reckless radicalism

It was significant that the gunmen in the latest hijacking chose the holy city of Mashhad in Iran as their original destination. They expected support and sympathy in a country which has, for nine years now, been ruled by its clergy...

Hazhir Teimourian

power found the attractions of courtly life and dynastic rule irresistible. When the armies of the new state rode into Persia, Syria and Egypt...

OBITUARY

RUTH PLANT

In search of Ethiopia's architecture. Ruth Plant, who died on April 17, aged 75, was in the tradition of tough, intellectually adventurous English women who go off to remote parts to carry out exotic research...

GENERAL PAUL FREEMAN

General Paul Freeman who has died in Monterey, California, at the age of 80, was a former Commander-in-Chief of the US Army in Europe, and of Central Army Group, Nato, in the 1960s.

Marriage

Colonel G.V. Churton and Mrs A. Gilchrist. The marriage took place on Wednesday, March 23, at St John's, Ashton Hayes...

Anniversaries

Today BIRTHS: William Shakespeare, Stratford-upon-Avon, 1564 (he died there on this day, 1616); George Anson, Baron Anson, admiral, naval reformer, Sloughborough, Staffordshire, 1697; Joseph Mallord William Turner, London, 1775; James Buchanan, 15th president of the USA 1857-61; Cove Gap, Pennsylvania, 1791; Max Planck, physicist, Kiel, 1858; Edmund Henry Allardyce, 1st Viscount Allendy, field-marshal, Brackenhurst, Nottinghamshire, 1861; Lester Pearson, prime minister of Canada 1963-68, Toronto, 1897.

Luncheons

Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London, accompanied by Mr Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs Brian Jenkins, attended a luncheon given by the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea at the Town Hall, Kensington, yesterday.

Service dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785. Sir John Wortle was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 in HMS Dolphin, Gosport, last night to commemorate War Patrols by HMS Upholder, Captain M.L.C. Crawford presided.

Dinners

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Mr Douglas Smith, Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, accompanied by Mrs Smith, received the guests at an annual dinner held last night at the Insurance Hall, Lord Justice and Lady Kerr and Sir Denis and Lady Roberts were among those present.

THE THYSSEN MASTERPIECES



Both a halo and crown

The Madonna of the Dry Tree, by Petrus Christus (c1410-1472 or 1473): The artist, a follower of Jan van Eyck, has set his Madonna and Child among dry branches which resemble both a halo and a crown of thorns.

Forthcoming marriages

- Mr T.M. Hamilton and Miss E. Nickerson. The engagement is announced between Thomas, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Frederic C. Hamilton, of Denver, Colorado...

Appointments

Mr William Hassan to be a Circuit Judge on the North Eastern Circuit. Mr Timothy R. G. F. Ryland to be a Circuit Judge on the South Eastern Circuit.

Professor B. Ashmole

A memorial service for Professor Bernard Ashmole, Lincoln Professor of Classical Archaeology 1956-61, Honorary Fellow of Hertford and Lincoln Colleges, will be held in the Chapel of Lincoln College, Oxford, on Saturday, May 7, 1988, at 2.30 pm.

All Hallows School

Lord Hynton will preside at a dinner at the House of Lords on Thursday, October 27, 1988 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of All Hallows School.

St George's School, Ascot

Boards returned to St George's School, Ascot, for Summer Term on Tuesday, April 19, with Sophie Dreyer continuing as head girl.

TCHICAYA U TAM'SI

Tchicaya U Tam'si, the Congolese poet, novelist and playwright, died on April 21, at the age of 57. For some 20 years he had been one of the most highly regarded of all African writers in French.

MR I. A. L. DIAMOND

Mr I. A. L. Diamond, a high regard for the importance of the screenwriter's role, once flippantly declared: "Directors cannot direct and actors cannot act without them."

Church news

The Rev Andrew Mya Han, General Secretary of the Burma Council of Churches, has been elected Bishop of Rangoon and Archbishop of Burma.

Royal engagements

TODAY: The Princess of Wales will attend the commissioning of HMS Cornwall at Falmouth Docks, Cornwall, at 11.00.

OBITUARY

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In search of Ethiopia's architecture. Ruth Plant, who died on April 17, aged 75, was in the tradition of tough, intellectually adventurous English women who go off to remote parts to carry out exotic research...

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EILEEN CULLEN

Miss Eileen Cullen, who died on April 12, spent her working life with BBC Radio from 1941 to 1966.

Latest wills

Lord Colbold, of Knebworth, Hertfordshire, Lord Chamberlain 1963-71, left estate valued at £135,045 net.

Knighthood for judge

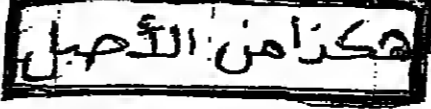
A knighthood is to be conferred on Mr Justice Thorpe on his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Justice.

Service dinners

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April 23-29, 1988

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

The knot in the heart of Seoul

After visiting the Olympic city, Chris Peachment feels this year's competitors may find the stadiums the most civilized places in town



I first encountered kimchi breath in the lift of the hotel. There was no one in the lift, but the previous occupant had obviously been eating kimchi, as Koreans do, for breakfast, lunch and tea, and the wall of fumes left me reeling in the corner, clutching at my throat, eyes streaming. Never mind airliners, the lifts in this country should come equipped with smoke hoods. Kimchi is a kind of shredded cabbage, a member of the sauerkraut family, which is steeped in hot peppers and then garnished with garlic. There is summer kimchi, and there is winter kimchi; winter kimchi is double strength. The only way to fight back against the great stinking miasma which rises like swamps in enclosed public places is to eat some yourself. Actually, it doesn't taste too bad. It clears the sinuses a treat, and, if you are redecorating, it is very useful for stripping off old paint; just breathe on the walls. You could probably clean the oven with it, too.

No one has much to say that is complimentary about the Koreans of their country. James Cameron, who covered the Korean War, talked of the dust, which was "worse than any dust normally experienced by human kind; it combined the properties of emery-powder and poison gas." Clearly an ancestor of kimchi. He also spoke of the characteristic smell of the countryside, "the hand-fertilizing of the paddies with domestic ordure was of course by no means unique in the East, but it is a fact that here it reached an especial concentration of evidence." Fortunately, I did not see very much of this. James Kirkup, writing in *The Streets of Asia*, said: "The Koreans have been called 'The Irish' of the East, but this is an insult to the Irish." And William Manchester opens his *Korean passage in American Caesar* with the description: "Korea hangs like a lumpy phallus between the sprawling thighs of Manchuria and the Sea of Japan", which is not a very kind thing to say about any country.

Certainly there is a disquieting air about the Koreans. Not exactly an underlying sadness, though this may well be the mainspring of their behaviour. I had travelled here after a short stay to Bangkok,



Who goes there? The security guard standing at the entrance to the main Olympic stadium will have a tendency to assume the answer 'foe'. Koreans, a much-invaded people, regard the world with some mistrust

and the contrast could not have been greater. The Thais, as well as being the most beautiful Asian race, have a modest, retiring air about them which is graciousness itself. Koreans, on the other hand, bump into you a lot. They have none of the oriental slightness of build; being bumped by a Korean means something like a shoulder charge from a Welsh valley second-row forward. They bark at you in a language which seems entirely composed of consonants. They bark at each other the same way. And all the while, the crowds of similar, flat, high-cheek-boned, dinner-plate faces regard you with no distinct expression, but black eyes which are sharp and not about to be fooled by anything. It

is a look often visible on the faces of Hungarians or Poles; peoples who have been invaded too often, and cannot lay claim to many victories in their past. One local journalist, Nam Lee, sometime plog-pong correspondent of *The Seoul Daily Sports*, and now its literary correspondent, talked to me about *hahn*, which is "the knot" which lies in the heart of Koreans. Although Buddhism and Confucianism are the chief religions (and it is not uncommon to find the wife of a family practising Buddhism while her husband adheres to Confucian ethical codes), there are still elements of the old shamanism, which was Korea's original religion, surviving in the remoter regions. The knot is a kind of wound, the result of repressed yearnings and cultural deprivation, which can only be untied with great difficulty and may well be the force behind the current economic upsurge in Korea.

The Japanese effectively ruled the country from 1910 until 1945. Since the Korean War shortly afterwards, of course, it has been divided between the Communist empire to the north and the United States' one to the south. The US forces of occupation are certainly still highly visible, in their green camouflaged combat fatigues and their camouflaged trucks, which stand out so well against the grey mountains of Korea. The area surrounding one of the main army bases in Seoul is littered with Country and Western night clubs, one called the Grand Ol' Opry, with pictures of Dolly Parton in the window. The Koreans still regard the Japanese with some mistrust, and the Japanese for their part seem to treat Korea like any other Third World country which is ripe for their expanding commercial em-

pire. Indeed, since Korea's own version of the "economic miracle" of the Seventies, Seoul has come to resemble some parts of Tokyo, as much as it can be said to resemble anywhere at all. The same post-modernist high-rise blocks, of no particular architectural distinction, rising from smaller, more crowded working areas. A similar feeling of cramped masses of hard-working people, who seem immune to that particularly occidental desire for individual personal expression. The same terrible rush hours. What it lacks is Tokyo's neon, which lights up that city in gaudy catenacs of fire. Finding a restaurant in Seoul open after 10 at night is difficult.

Traditional Korean houses (of which there are very few left) took a lot of looking after, and the traditional method upon marriage and the founding of a family home was to import the grandparents to look after the house. Presumably even Koreans have the traditional jokes about in-laws, but at least it gave shelter and a useful role to the elderly. With their new Western habits, young upwardly aspiring Seoulians have other space nor desire for grandparents around the place. What happens to them I do not know. Korean social welfare is reportedly on a par with their independent labour union scheme: neither exists. Shopping is the major pastime for the foreigner in Seoul. It'swon (pronounced Ee-tie-won) is the main shopping street for for-

money while leaving the wallet intact. If, like everyone else, I have seemed unkind about the face of Seoul, I should add that there were two people there who greeted me more hospitably than anyone else ever has on a foreign trip. And it is doubly unfair, coming from an Englishman. After all, they might have awarded the Olympics to Birmingham.

INDEX table listing various sections and page numbers.

WANT A BANK LOAN? - OUR RATES ARE THE LOWEST EVER



QUICK & COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL! NO BANKERS REFERENCE!

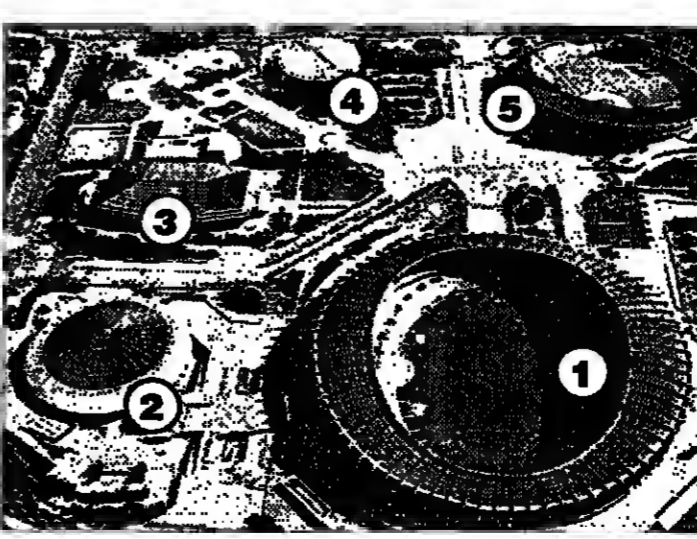
- NO LEGAL FEES, NO ANY PURPOSE, NO ARRANGEMENT FEES, NO EMPLOYER ENQUIRIES

Table showing loan amounts and monthly repayments for different terms.

CAVENDISH BANK PERSONAL LOANS FINANCE CO. COMMERCIAL FINANCE MORTGAGES

Ways to the Olympics

The fastest way to Seoul from London is via Japan on one of the non-stop flights over the trans-Siberia route, reaching Tokyo in under 12 hours. This route is served by BCal/ British Airways and Japan Airlines. The final leg to Seoul (by JAL or Korean Airlines, KAL) takes two hours. Direct flights, taking six hours longer, operate from Amsterdam (KLM), Paris (Air France/KAL) and Zurich (Swissair/ KAL). Alternatively, a round-the-world (RTW) ticket can be cheaper. Between London and Seoul, the normal return first and business class fares are £4,140 and £2,472 respectively, with the economy class PEX (instant purchase) excursion costing £981. PEX fares require a minimum stay of 14 days in Seoul; stopovers are allowed. Sportsworld Travel, 320 Old Brompton Road, London SW5 9JH, (01-378 4515), is the official ticket agency for the Olympics.



1 The main Olympic stadium, built for the Asian Games of 1986. This asset encourages Koreans to talk of making up to \$90 million profits. Other arenas: 2 Gymnasium 3 Indoor swimming pool 4 Students' gymnasium 5 Baseball stadium

Only one decaffeinated coffee is now golden roasted, richer, smoother.



'Nescafé' and 'Gold Blend' are registered trade marks to designate Nestlé's instant coffees.

Architecture... It was in the mid-1980s when she had occasion to travel to Ethiopia. Her studies had been made on the rock-hewn churches, the spire returning every year to the difficult country...

TAMSI... was evening... of all what... needed in...

EILEEN CILLI... called when...

Various small text fragments and advertisements on the left margin.

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

TRAVEL NEWS

Refunds, not surcharges, on holidays are a real possibility by mid-summer...

Intasun's managing director Roger Heape said: "We believe that there may well be refunds from the airlines this summer on fuel..."

The first of next winter's ski holiday brochures are out with good deals for those prepared to book now...

Seven of the 1,800 Britons who caught malaria on their travels last year were killed by the disease according to statistics from MASTA...

Avoiding bites as well as taking anti-malarial drugs is now routinely advised for travellers visiting affected areas...

TRAVEL BOOKS

Getting on with it where other men only dream, Robin Neillands (a regular contributor to these pages) went Walking Through France From the Channel to the Camargue...

A view from the grandstand

William Greaves takes the high road to the North Rim and enjoys the glories of the Grand Canyon far from the madding tourist crowd

Take any monumental freak of nature and you can bet your last travellers cheque that the finest view will be from the very point at which a multitude of camera-clad itinerants, recently decanted from coach and car, is gathering.

To drive the 50-odd miles due south from Jacob Lake through the misleadingly pastoral amalgam of Douglas pines and lush green meadows of Northern Arizona, however, is to arrive in one breathtaking moment of unsurpassable majesty upon one of the best kept secrets of the whole American tourist adventure.

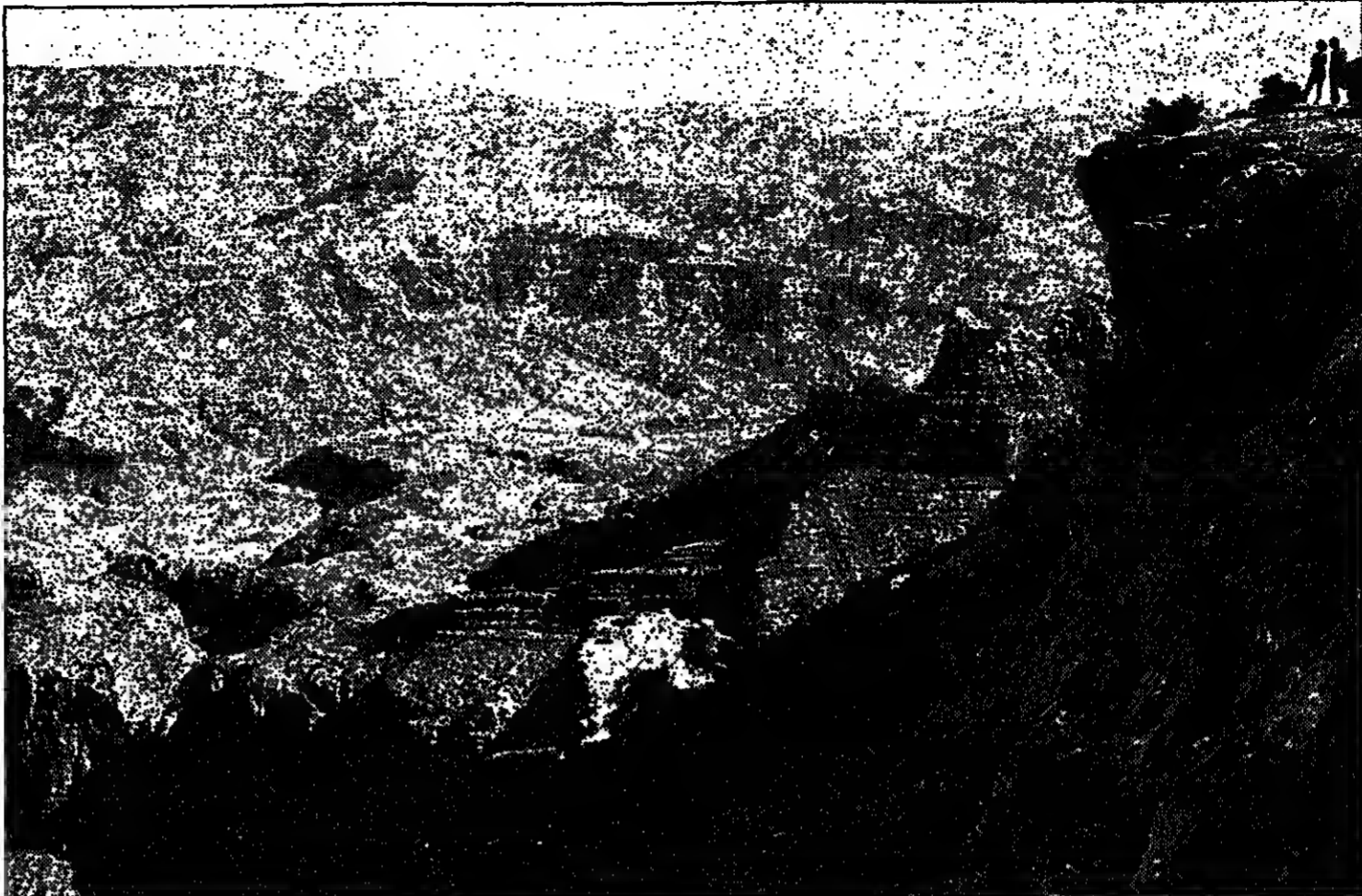
At the end of the road stands a single, isolated lodge. Park your car, walk through the lobby and out on to the terrace, and suddenly you are staring down into that precipitous kaleidoscope of mists and shadows that constitutes the Grand Canyon.

'It's one of the best kept secrets of the whole American tourist adventure'

There is nothing secret, of course, about the canyon itself. The gorge that carries the Colorado River through the Rocky Mountains and out into the blistering heat of the Nevada desert is visited, almost by obligation, by hundreds of thousands of sightseers every year.

But they are on the other side of the chasm, which, mirabile dictu, is the wrong side of the chasm. Why they are there, huddled together on the barren south rim within a township of hotels and lodges, is because they have been magnetically attracted by a network of air and road routes and a climate that makes access possible all year round.

Another explanation for why only a handful of Grand Canyon cognoscenti will direct the traveller's steps to the north rim is that its most convenient approach is a day's drive from Las Vegas — and most people who climb off a plane in that desert playground have



Breathtaking: a bird's eye view of the gorge that carries the Colorado River through the Rocky Mountains and out into the Nevada desert

little intention of using it as a launch pad to nature's masterpieces.

The two rims are 10 miles apart by crow's flight. The super-fit human may don back-pack, descend 5,000 vertical feet down the South Kaibab trail, cross the river by single-file bridge through a summer cauldron of 120°F, climb 6,000 feet and arrive at the North Kaibab trailhead 20 miles and three or four days later. By car the

two rims are a discouraging 215 miles apart.

As less than seven per cent of all Grand Canyon voyeurs ever venture beneath the edge, let alone traverse one of the most demanding safaris in the western world, it is small wonder that few have the personal experience to compare one location with the other.

Four who do are the woman lawyer from Denver, Colorado, and her three male companions,

who I met coming towards me at Roaring Springs, five walking miles and 3,500 feet beneath the North Rim. I was well ready to turn about and the handicap of the weight on their backs and the distance they had covered from Cottonwood Camp at daybreak (not to mention their previous days on the hoof) enabled me to keep pace as we traipsed the steep zig-zag path past the ever-changing rock structures, fauna (including a close encounter

with a spotted skunk) and flora to the top.

They were glad enough of the sight of my car at the trailhead and the offer of a lift to the lodge to insist on buying me a drink on the terraces. Together we watched as the sunset cast the patchwork of ridges far beneath us into smouldering crimson.

"Jesus!" exclaimed one of them, a delighted blasphemy which the Almighty must have heard from

this spot on countless earlier occasions. "Do all those guys over the other side realize what they're missing?"

It is that extra thousand feet on the North Rim — it is closed by snow, or the likelihood of it, between October and May — which makes the difference. While the view from the south is abruptly halted by the cliff face opposite, the one in the opposite direction takes in the San Francisco Peaks, silhouetted on the horizon 70 miles beyond. And whereas Grand Canyon Village is set in an almost lunar landscape on the edge of Arizona's Painted Desert, the North Rim is above tree level, lending it an infinitely more varied and picturesque environment.

The northern visitor has another advantage too. Instead of an interesting but seemingly interminable approach from Flagstaff, Arizona, through the Painted Desert, the drive to North Rim out of Las Vegas can take in the two Utah national parks of Zion and Bryce Canyon — the one spectacularly beautiful and the other a natural amphitheatre almost as awe-inspiring as Arizona's Grand Canyon itself.

'Jesus! Do all those guys over the other side realize what they're missing?'

By arrangement with the American National Parks, the same company that operates the Grand Canyon lodge has similar lodges at Zion and Bryce. All three blend tastefully with their surroundings; their log cabin bedrooms are spacious and comfortable, and the food is appetizing.

However, Zion and Bryce come with a word of warning. With a neatness of moral interpretation — I hesitate to use the word hypocrisy — Utah permits the charging of a handsome corkage fee to open the bottle of wine you have brought with you, while forbidding the sale on the premises of anything more alcoholically risqué than a bottle of local beer. Gourmets may travel in splendour — but must pack with care.

Portrait of a Self-made City PETER NEWBOLD. For a free copy of this enthralling and informative essay on American life...

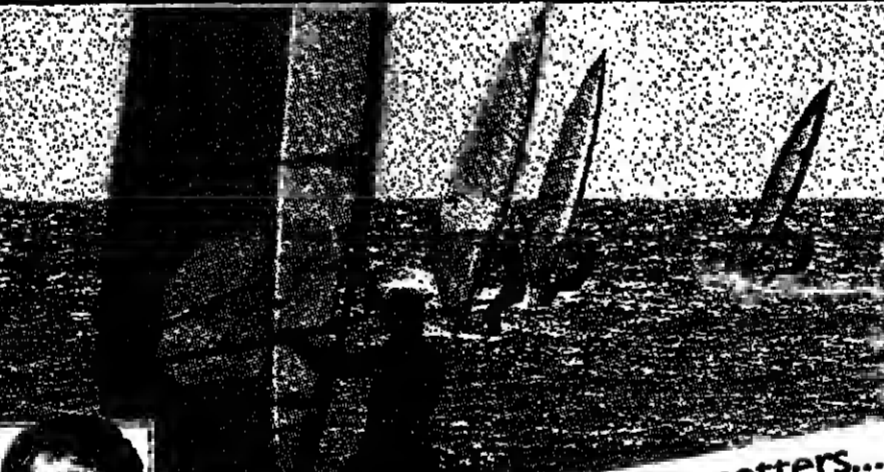
Map of Bryce Canyon, Utah, showing the location of the North and South Rims and the Kaibab trail.

TRAVEL NOTES

Any flight to Las Vegas (preferably offering a fly-drive facility) sets you down within a day's drive of the North Rim, 8 1/2 hours non-stop via St George and Jacob's Ladder, Zion National Park, however, makes an ideal first-night destination, easily attainable by road between lunchtime and dinner, and a further night at Bryce Canyon is well worth while.

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GARDENING

Bouquets of Barbican beauty

Gardening in the Barbican poses both aesthetic and physical problems. It is difficult to find a style for the inclement environment of dark towers and windy walkways.

The massive concrete buildings do not age gracefully and the standard Barbican window boxes, also concrete, are unsympathetic to plants. Nevertheless, the Barbican Horticultural Society, formed in 1980, has a busy membership which has influenced not only the private balconies and

windowsills but public spaces, where tubs are gardened by the residents.

The tubs have recently been joined by "traffic island" beds installed by the Barbican Corporation and together they hugely improve the gaunt walkways and courts. What works most effectively is clever, colourful semi-formal bedding: forget-me-nots, tulips and euphorbias, pale primrose wall flowers and broom. Set in wide clumps rather than lines, the plants

mediate between the geometry of the architecture and people.

The Barbican Spring Competition was held yesterday, and edging my way around the balcony gardens and window boxes, I realized that gardening (like living) in these conditions is a high density exercise. It also calls for boldness: brightly coloured tulips and wall flowers, garish in a more natural situation, challenge the concrete and provide bright flags of colour on the grey towers.

In the polluted and dusty atmosphere of the City of London, the scent of flowers is almost more important than colour. The window box winner, Mrs Amy Morgan, had wallflowers, scented geraniums and honeysuckle. Nearly all the other competitors also had a selection of strongly fragrant plants: rosemary, lavender, hyssop, and even the richly scented pheasant's-eye narcissus.

In shady conditions, the gardeners have made good use

of variegated plants: Euonymus, the small-leaved cream-flecked ivies and even the unusual New Zealand plant *Griselinia littoralis Variegata*. When you only have an area about four feet long, nine inches wide and 18 inches deep, open to the force of chills, high winds, pecked over by sparrows and pigeons, and even used by the Barbican Mallards to nest in, it is an achievement to grow anything at all.

Francesca Greenoak

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Barbican window box looking out on St Paul's in the City

NEWLINES

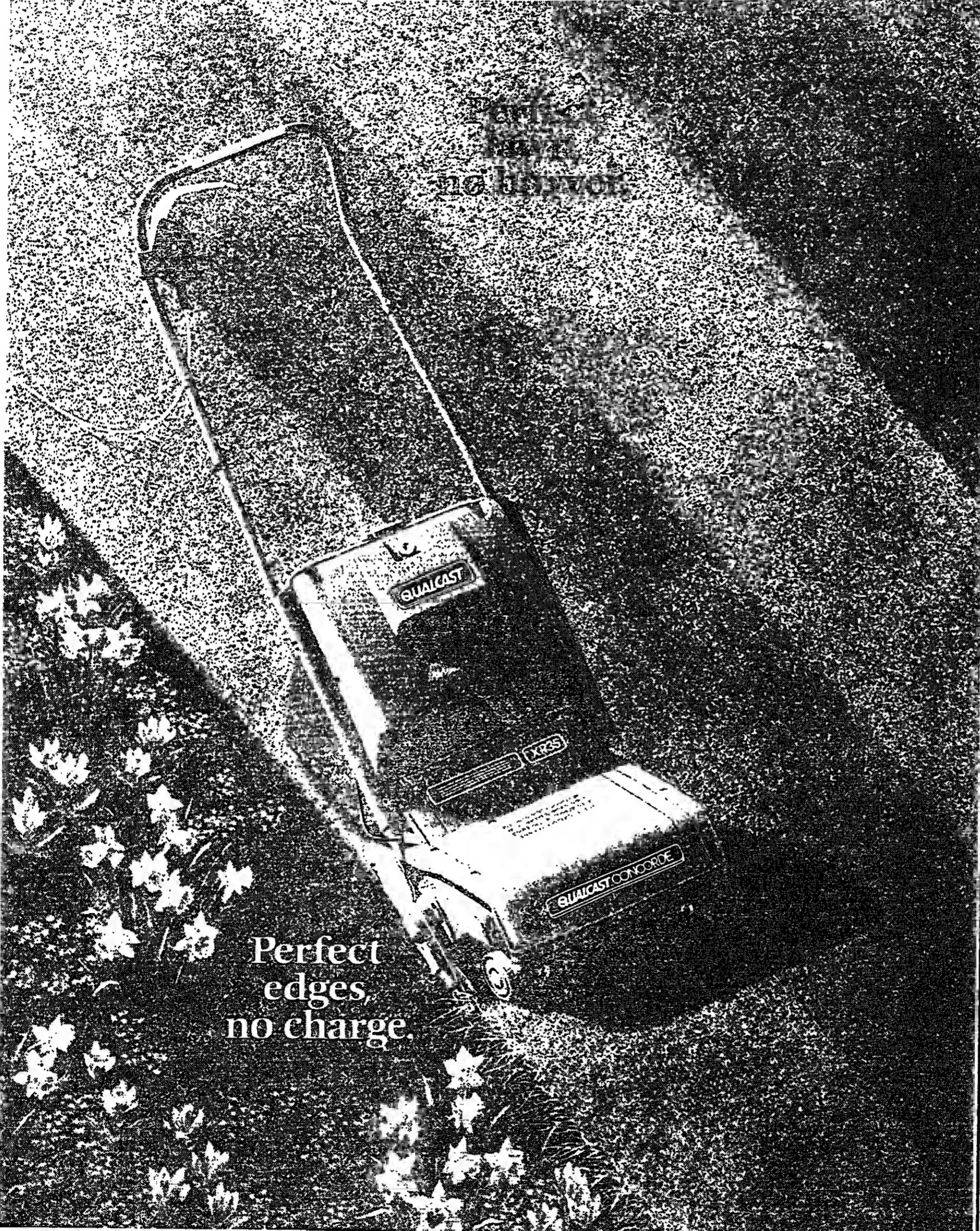
It is garden festival time in Glasgow, beginning April 28 on an exciting dockside site flanking the south bank of the Clyde.

Arranged into somewhat inscrutable themes, the garden exhibits include high-tech demonstration plots, heritage gardens, the voguish plant-mans' and planthunters' gardens, as well as "third world initiatives", water displays and "gardens of peace".

Day tickets for the festival £5, children £2.50 (£4 concessionary rate). May be bought at the gate or ordered in advance by telephone 041 429 8855 (or Freefoe Garden Festival, in Scotland), credit cards accepted.

WEEKEND TIPS

- Always handle seedlings by their leaves (not the delicate stems) when pricking out.
- Plant maincrop potatoes this week.
- Make sure greenhouse and indoor plants have adequate water and ventilation.
- Cut holly, box and yew, using secateurs rather than shears.
- Sow courgettes, outdoor cucumbers, French beans and pumpkins in small pots inside or in warm soil under choches.



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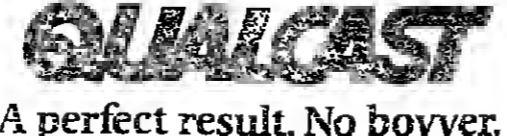
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EATING OUT



French cuisine with a Bristol cream topping

The Barbizon is situated in what appears to be a much more propitious and enviable part of Bristol than the excellent Les Semailles, which I wrote about three weeks ago.

Its premises are certainly much finer. It occupies the basement of the former Commercial Rooms, a late Georgian club room whose design in the Greek Revival manner. It was converted four years ago by Slavik, the Parisian restaurant design practice, and is their only work in this country.

The night I ate there no other table was taken. This was astonishing for though it is not the gastronomic equal of the hardly better frequented Les Semailles, it is unquestionably a fine establishment. Again, one wonders whether it is peddling the wrong ambience in a city that is inclined to dress down when it goes out.

After the West Jonathan Meades finds himself in the Gateway to the South

This is a lactic paradise; but not altogether a vinous one. The wine list takes a bit of negotiating because of its advertisement of bottles that are out of stock.

It is the days when Peter Sellers christened it Gateway to the South, it would have been unthinkable that Balham could ever provide a ready audience for a restaurant.

Macnab's, set among the motorcycle showrooms and carpet-marts of the still doggedly proletarian high road, is typical of the places that have sprung up all over London in the wake of estate agents and skips.

Its service is well-mannered, well-spoken, reasonably professional. The cooking, when it doesn't attempt to over-reach itself, is pleasing. The front of the premises is a wine bar; the night I was there it was filled with 20-year-olds with loud voices and loud striped shirts.

the real people, who hang out in the kebabs shacks and tandoori tents.

This wine bar offers some Chinese snacks - wontons, spring rolls, bits of this and that decent better. This orientalism continues in a couple of the dishes on the restaurant menu, which borders on the slowly eclectic.

The two things that went wrong were a veal steak, on which sat some sort of cheesy mousse flavoured with orange, and a sweet of white chocolate with a nasty tart sauce which was claimed to be apricot.

There are two impressive main courses: sautéed pheasant breast with a sauce pepped up with chocolate in the manner of Catalonia, Mexico, Italy et al; lamb with a restrained shallot sauce. Among the sweets are banana roulade, and a pretty delicious rum and chocolate tart.

This is a reasonably priced joint and one which ought to do well. It would be rash to suggest that it is worth making a trek from, say, Highgate, but the local young of Clapham, Tooting, Wandsworth, Battersea and so on should take note that here is yet another place for them to exercise their brays in. About £46 for two.

Barbican: 43 Corn Street, Bristol (0272 22858), noon-2.30pm and 7.30-10.30pm Mon to Fri; 7.30-10.30pm Sat. Macnab's, 43 Balham High Road, London SW12 (01-875 6522), Mon-Sat, noon-9pm and 6-12pm; Sun, noon-2pm and 7-11pm.

THE TIMES COOK

Middle age spread

To celebrate Shakespeare's birthday and St George's Day, Frances Bissell looks back to medieval England

When I was looking at some medieval English recipes to see what could be adapted to the modern kitchen, I was struck, not by their strangeness but their familiarity.

Mussels cooked in beer and herbs was a delicious variant of moules marinières. Rabbit with mustard was almost identical to the contemporary lapin à la moutarde. One of my favourite recipes was a Brie tart. It was flavoured with saffron which was found on a commercial scale in Britain in the middle ages around Saffron Walden and sweetened with honey which was more commonly used than sugar.

Although it is generally held that the Brie we know today is a relative newcomer and that the Brie of the middle ages was more than likely a soft, curd-type cheese, out of curiosity I used Brie in my recipe. It gives it a slightly more unusual flavour than using curd cheese alone, but it should not be a Brie that has reached the very runny, pungent stage. I recommend it as an alternative to the modern cheese cake, a good way to finish off a Sunday lunch perhaps, after a traditional roast.

I was offered a traditional roast to try a few weeks ago, a piece of sirloin on the bone which I duly roasted and found to be very good. It was the sort of beef that you would expect from a good butcher where the beef has been hung long enough for it to develop a good flavour and texture. It came not from a butcher, however, but from one of the high street multiples who were introducing it as an entirely new product. Were they not giving us traditional beef?

It is all too easy to be seduced by those joints of lean beef in the butcher's window or on the supermarket shelf. Small, neat, without a bone and thus easy to carve, tied around with a thin lay of fat for basting. Tasty, lean meat it is true, but these joints come from the hardworking leg muscles which is why they are lean.

These cuts are better pot roasted or braised, covered and cooked in a slow oven with liquid and vegetables to taste and flavour. For a tender

roasting joint, you should choose one from the parts of the animal that have had to do the least work. Look for sirloin, fillet or ribs. All very appropriate for St George's Day and Shakespeare's birthday. You do not need me to tell you how to roast beef, but you will, I hope, enjoy my recipe for braised beef.

But first, before the beef, here is a recipe for a very good warm salad. I have always liked cod's roe and baccos for breakfast, and this recipe developed from finding an extra piece of cod's roe in the refrigerator at the same time as some leftover skate. I decided that it was even better made with freshly cooked warm skate.

Warm skate, cod's roe and bacon salad (serves 4 to 6) 2oz/60g smoked streaky bacon 12oz/340g cooked cod's roe 1 skate wing, weighing about 10oz/280g green salad leaves, washed and dried 3 tablespoons olive oil 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar or cider vinegar 1 tablespoon capers (optional) salt, if required pepper

Remove the bacon rind and cut the bacon into matchsticks. Fry them until the fat runs, then remove with a slotted spoon, leaving the bacon fat in the frying pan. Slice the cod's roe and fry it in the bacon fat. Meanwhile, poach or steam the skate until just cooked but not overcooked. The timing will depend on the thickness of the fish. When cooked put it to one side until just cool enough to handle.

Divide the salad leaves and arrange on dinner plates. Arrange the slices of cod's roe on top and then the warm skate which you remove in shreds from the cartilage. Put the olive oil to

the pan with the remaining bacon fat and the pieces of bacon. When the pan is sizzling, add the vinegar and capers and season lightly. Pour the hot dressing over the salad and serve immediately.

My next dish, spiced topside braised in cider, is for a large gathering, unless you want a lot of leftovers. These though are delicious in sandwiches, salads or as potted beef. It is also a good-tempered dish and can be left for several hours to cook in a slow oven. Start the preparation at least the day before and marinate the beef overnight. It can marinate for up to 72 hours. This is not unlike the traditional German stubebraten.

Spiced topside braised in cider (serves 8 to 10) 4lbs/1.8kg boned and rolled topside or silverside 2 teaspoons salt 2 teaspoons ground cardamom 2 teaspoons ground ginger 1/2 pint/140mls cider vinegar 3/4 pint/430mls dry cider 1 medium onion, peeled and sliced 1 medium carrot, peeled and sliced 1 leek, washed, trimmed and sliced 1 stick celery, trimmed and sliced 2 bay leaves 1 small stick of cinnamon 6 cloves 1 tablespoon allspice 1 tablespoon black peppercorns 1 teaspoon mace 2 tablespoons olive oil 1 teaspoon flour 1/2oz/15g butter, softened

Trim and wipe the piece of beef. Rub it all over with the salt, the cardamom and 1 teaspoon of the ginger, and place it in a large bowl.

Place the vinegar, cider, vegetables, bay leaves, cinnamon, cloves, allspice, peppercorns and mace in a saucepan, bring them to the boil and pour them over the meat. Cool quickly, then cover and refrigerate for up to 72 hours, turning the meat occasionally.

When ready to cook the meat, choose a casserole only slightly bigger than the joint. Remove the meat from the marinade, dry it all over, and heat the oil in a frying pan or in the casserole if it is flame-proof. When the oil is hot, sear the meat all over until browned. Put it into the casserole, and add about half the marinade and vegetables.

Cover and cook in a slow oven, gas mark 3 to 4, 160/180°C, 325/350°F for 3 1/2 hours. Check the liquid level after a couple of hours and add more of the marinade and vegetables if you wish, topping up with cider as necessary.

When the meat is cooked, lift out of the casserole, transfer it to a carving dish and keep it warm. Pour the pan juices and any remaining marinade and vegetables into a saucepan and bring to the boil. Simmer for a few minutes while you prepare a ginger beurre manié by mixing the flour, softened butter and the remaining teaspoon of ginger together. Drop bit by bit into the saucepan, stir and cook for a further 10 minutes. Slice the meat and strain the sauce over it or into a sauceboat to hand round separately.

In the following recipe, the quantities can be multiplied or divided according to how much beef you have. A food processor is very useful particularly for large quantities.

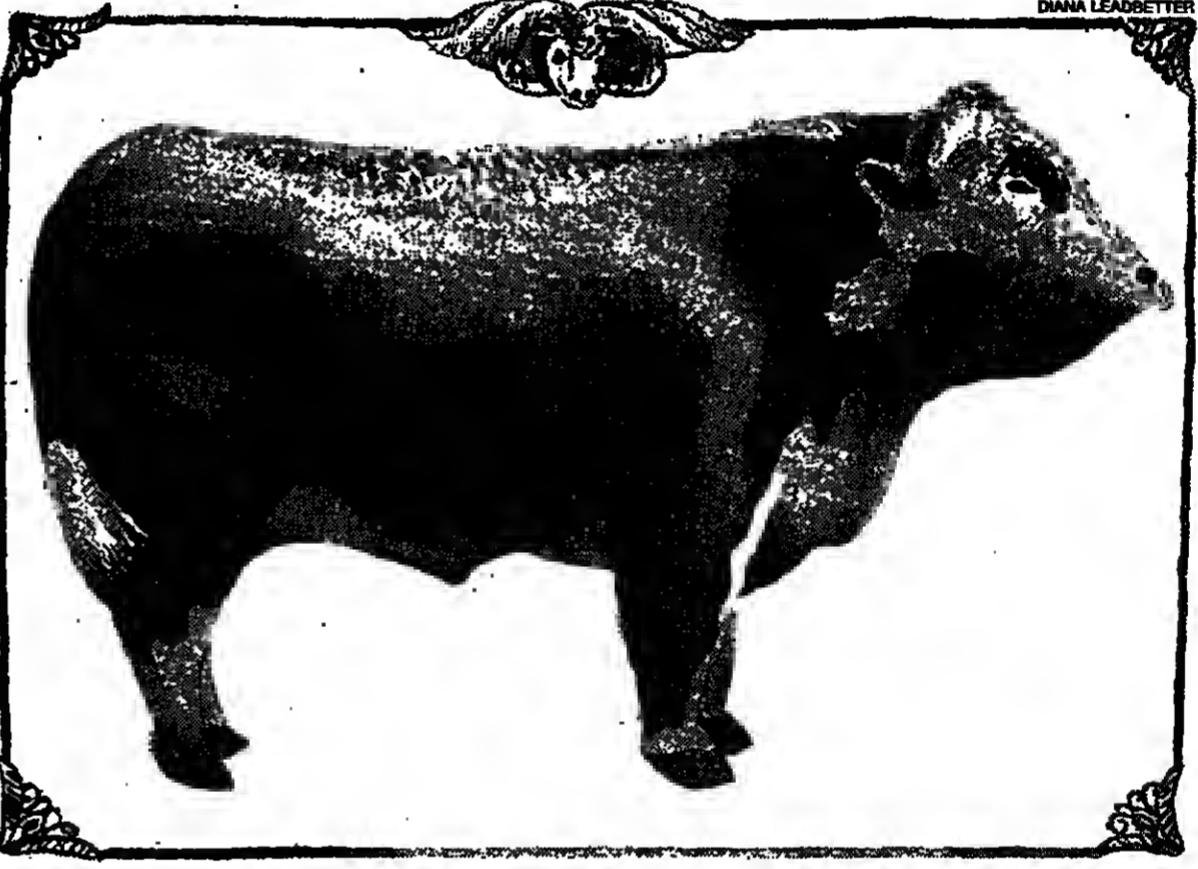
Potted Beef (makes 1 1/2 lbs/680g) 1lb/450g cooked beef 8oz/230g unsalted butter 1 teaspoon powered mace a good pinch of freshly grated nutmeg a good pinch of fresh ground black pepper 1 to 2 tablespoons port or Madeira salt freshly ground black pepper 1 to 2 tablespoons clarified butter

Cut the beef into small cubes, first removing the fat or gristle. Place it in a food processor with the butter, spices and port or Madeira. Process until smooth. Season to taste and pack into a jar. Pour clarified butter over the top to seal it. Cool, cover and refrigerate.

Brie and Saffron Tart (serves 4 to 6) pinch of saffron threads 8oz/230g short pastry 4oz/110g Brie 4oz/110g curd cheese 3 tablespoons honey 3 tablespoons water 2 size 3 eggs

Soak the saffron threads for 20 minutes in a tablespoon of hot water. Roll out the pastry and line a 10 inch/25cm rimmed pie plate. Use the trimmings to decorate the rim with pastry leaves or a plait.

Put the curd cheese in a bowl, remove the rind from the Brie and mix thoroughly with the curd cheese. Melt the honey with two tablespoons water. Mix the honey and saffron liquid with the cheese and beat in the two eggs. Pour the mixture carefully into the pie dish and bake in a preheated oven at gas mark 5, 190°C/375°F, for 15 minutes, then turn it down to gas mark 3, 170°C/325°F, for a further 20 minutes or so. Serve warm or cold.



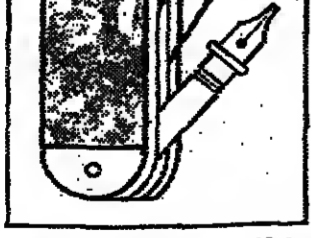
DIANA LEADBETTER

DRINK

The new red baron?

Alexis Lichine's rumpled Russian face grimaced: "I've got to be there to cut my arms and legs off... that is what quality in Bordeaux is all about". The "there" is his Bordeaux fourth growth chateau, Prieuré-Lichine, and the figurative, albeit financially painful, process he describes is the assemblage of his 1987 vintage.

Lichine is one of the many Bordeaux proprietors likely to have suffered agonies over their various 1987 vats. It was ERIC BEAUMONT



wet, humid, and rot was rife in Bordeaux during the 1987 harvest. Whether Lichine's Bordeaux colleagues will be quite brave enough to demote 60 per cent of their grand vin to their second and lesser wines, as he did one year, is difficult to judge. Unlike the first growth level, where millions of pounds can be lost in the grand vin elimination game, Lichine's fourth growth financial sacrifice concerns only millions of francs. If the Russian Revolution had not taken place, Lichine's prospects may well have been as rosy today as those of his

like, still available today, alas. The war halted Lichine's progress, but its end saw his headiest days, and a series of remarkable coups. The first was a book entitled Wines of France, published in 1951, the same year that he bought Chateau-Prieuré, a run down fourth growth in Margaux renamed Prieuré-Lichine, but much beloved by its illustrious neighbours. Not content with one Bordeaux property, he and a group of American financiers the following year purchased second growth Chateau Lascombes, also in Margaux. A shipping company was the next ob-

Lichine's next book, a comprehensive encyclopaedia of the world's wines, just released here in its seventh, revised edition (Alexis Lichine's New Encyclopaedia of Wines & Spirits, Cassell £14.95) and referred to by the author as his "immense enormous slavery", is still the bible of the wine world after 21 years. Surprisingly he regards neither this nor his third book, the informative tourist-oriented Alexis Lichine's Guide to the Wines and Vineyards of France (Paperback £9.95) as his greatest achievement. "That", he told me sternly, "was to take the God damned continent of America and shake it loose from Martinis, iced water and milk, to wine." Jane MacQuitty

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Beauty... Cotswold... Technology... Various small advertisements on the left margin.

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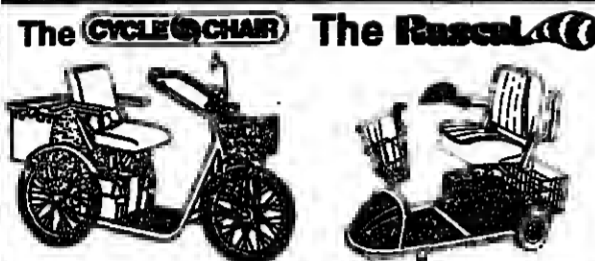
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GOBLIN RIO GRANDE 1000 Price: £59.95 Rating: ★★

Small, cylinder cleaner which proved light and easy to carry and offered strong suction. It is slim enough to stand easily on stairs.

PANASONIC MC-E43, Price: £109.95 Rating: ★★

Upright cleaner, easy to carry around. Unusually long flex (24ft). Good range of attachments, stored in the cleaner's body.

ROWENTA RU44 Price: £82.49 Rating: ★★

Sturdy 20-litre capacity wet-and-dry cleaner which comes with two sets of tools: one for light industrial waste and garden leaves, one for household cleaning.

Modern vacuum cleaners do more than suck dust from dirty carpets. Some models will even mop up pools of water or unblock a sink.



operates at a distance from the body. Wet-and-dry cleaners can be used both for household cleaning and - depending on power levels - for cleaning up miscellaneous rubbish such as wood shavings, wallpaper strippings and garden leaves.

We tested six models with the help of Candy Bowman, who runs a domestic help agency for Londoners called Home Matters. Here are the results.

Cylinder cleaners are useful in awkward corners, since the cleaning head operates at a distance from the body. Wet-and-dry cleaners can be used both for household cleaning and - depending on power levels - for cleaning up miscellaneous rubbish such as wood shavings, wallpaper strippings and garden leaves.

ELECTROLUX 612 Price: £130 Rating: ★★

Lightweight, powerful upright cleaner with an acceptable, fairly low-pitched noise level. We felt it would suit high-quality carpets where the four manual settings for different heights of carpet pile could be used.

HOOVER AQUATRONIC 1100 Price: £229.99 Rating: ★★

Powerful wet-and-dry suction cleaner which can shampoo carpets, remove liquids from the floor, and unblock sinks and drains.

PHILIPS HR6520 Price: £95.99 Rating: ★

Quiet and very powerful cylinder cleaner. Solidly made and not too heavy, although it might get tiring moving it around a large house with lots of stairs.

The vac pack: Home Matters cleaners with (back, left to right) the Goblin Rio Grande 1000, Panasonic, Rowenta, Philips, and (front, left to right) Electrolux, Hoover Aquatronic 1100

FOR THE HOME advertisement for furniture featuring a sofa and chair.

THE HAMPSTEAD PINE COMPANY advertisement for furniture.

Pilgrim Payne Ltd. advertisement for curtains and cleaning services.

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Vertical sidebar advertisements for various products like foam, beautiful, and satin sheets.

OUT AND ABOUT

مكازم الأهل

A village in memoriam

A memorial chapel quite unlike any other building in England, an extraordinary art gallery, and a uniquely interesting Norman church - the village of Compton in Surrey has all of these, and more.

Nigel Andrew visits Compton, shrine to a Victorian painter, George Watts



Widow's work: The Watts chapel, built by the painter's wife

The village is pretty and well preserved, and off its long single street the parish church nestles among trees. It is a low, time-weathered building, all brilliant white inside.

Up the road is the hillside churchyard, the setting for the Watts Chapel, one of the most outstanding buildings I have ever seen.

The chapel was built to his memory by his widow, a woman of formidable dedication, who designed the whole thing herself, along with the nearby Cloister, organized the villagers into a Potters Art Guild, found suitable clays on the estate, and even modelled much of the decoration.

Every inch of every surface is encrusted with gesso, lavishly decorated with long trails of stylized foliage, elongated figures, pictorial vignettes and other-worldly faces, of which some look downward in sympathy while others look upward in hope.

overwhelm rather than enlighten. The one still point in the decorative riot is a small Watts painting over the altar, 'The All-Rewarding'.

There are a great many more such titles - 'Love and Death', 'The Spirit of Christianity', 'Love Steering the Boat of Humanity' - in the Watts Gallery itself. This unpretentious rough-cast building was also built by the widow Watts. The rooms are airy and well lit, the largest of them restored to its splendid original colours of purple and green, silver and dull gold.

However, Watts in bulk is certainly impressive; there are many unexpected pleasures to be found, particularly among the paintings, and in odd recesses, nestle the relics: Watts's Order of Merit, framed along with his palette and brushes; a wonderfully ascetic death mask, his skull-cap and casts of his hands, and some fine photographs.

The remarkable Sculpture Gallery is being restored, but you may be able to have a look inside. Here, amid a surreal

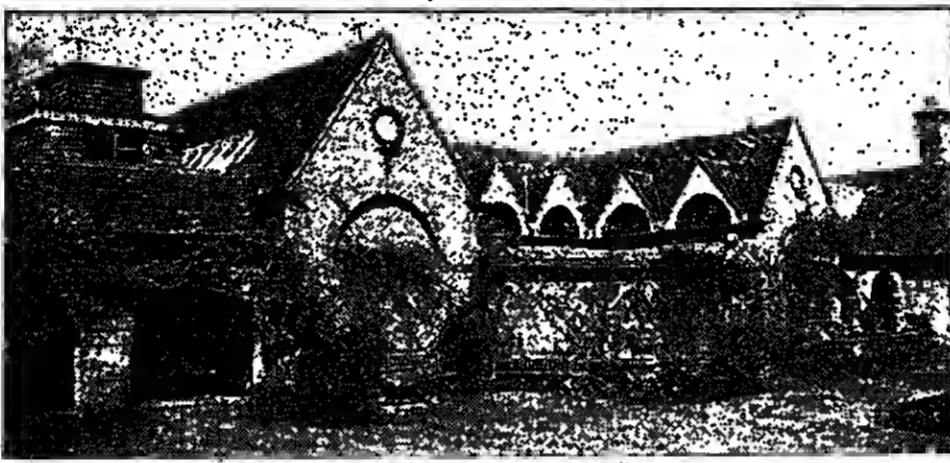
jumble of plaster-cast arms and legs and hands and feet, stand the colossal models for Watts's statue of Tennessee (and his dog), and for his famous 'Physical Energy', a version of which is in Kensington Gardens.

It was while working on this that he caught the cold that developed into pneumonia and killed him, a very grand old man of English art. He may no longer seem a great artist now, but in Compton he has a memorial which makes him unique among Victorian painters.

The Watts Gallery, Compton, near Guildford, is open daily, except Thursdays, 2.30pm to 5.15pm - 1pm Wed and Sat. Admission free. No dogs.



In loving memory: sculpture from the Watts gallery (below)



TORRIDON Slouch north west Scotland Distance: 15 miles Slouch. It sounds like a good 10-year-old malt and indeed, has a similar subtlety. The face it presents across Loch Maree invites analogy with supermarket brands, all fire and no violence, but closer inspection confirms its loftier liaisons.

Aim a boot at the tumbling falls



The best route up, strikes just west of north at about 45 degrees to the compass to the rim of Coire an Tuill Bhain, then by its eponymous Sgurr to the summit.

This description is all too short for the ascent it dispenses: it also dispenses with warnings which must be plain to anyone. The weather here is real, as are the fatalities.

Iain Liddell

Much ado about Will

SHAKESPEARE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS Annual event celebrated by many visitors from abroad, including ambassadors and high commissioners from all over the world.

OUTINGS

SE1 (01-261 1891 for further information). Tomorrow 1am-4.30pm, admission 50p.

BOATYARD NATIONAL OPEN DAYS: 52 boat yards on British waterways will be open tomorrow - from 10am to 5pm - providing visitors with an opportunity to inspect boats and, at some, take short trips.

ESSEX GARDEN OPEN DAY: Lovely gardens surrounding 17th century house with many

spring flowers and a chain of lakes. The Manor House, Little Easton, near Dunmow, Essex. Tomorrow 2-6pm, admission Adult £1, Child 50p. Proceeds to charity.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND GLOBAL PLANT SALE: All types of house and garden plants at bargain prices, plus used book and home produce stalls. Proceeds to Worldwide Plant and Animal Conservation. Lightfoot Hall, Kings College, Manresa Road, London SW3. Today 10am-5pm.

Judy Froshaug

Paris trip winners

In our competition featuring general knowledge questions about Paris, the winners, who will each have a weekend for two in the French capital and a copy of The Times Bartholomew Guide to Paris, are Mrs C. Constable of Worthing and Mr Alan McCook of Doncaster.

Cross: Miss E. Shaw of Bath; Mrs Michelle Field of London SW17; and Mr Peter Corbett of Essex. The answers: 1. St Denis 2. The square sparris in front of Notre Dame Cathedral 3. Marie de Medicis 4. Champs de Mars 5. The Church of Dome at Les Invalides 6. Place de la Concorde 7. The Pont Neuf 8. The Georges Pompidou Centre. All questions and answers were taken from The Times Bartholomew Guide to Paris.

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Vertical text on the far left edge of the page, including 't beat', 'ELECTRONIC', 'HOOPER AQUATRONIC', 'PHILIPS HR620', 'HT LOUVRE', 'MEASURE', 'E VENETIANS', 'ROCHURE & SAMPLES', 'BLINDS Ltd', 'Roxon Tables', 'Hard-to-Get BEDLINES'.

Trial by reporter

TELEVISION

We gentle persons of the Press are more ready, it seems, than our television counterparts to name the guilty men. The second programme in the BBC2 series *Secret Services* followed a *Sunday Mirror* investigative journalist, Steve Bailey, as he tracked down a dastardly bounder of a Wimbledon umpire, who had been selling centre court tickets at a substantial profit.

Although the paper printed the story last year, we were not given his name during the programme. We heard his bugged bluster as he was tenderly led into the multi-media trap but when he came in front of the candid television camera his face instantly became an indecipherable mosaic of computer graphics.

Legal reasons may have necessitated this faceless, if arty, anonymity, but there was also aesthetic and moral justification for it. Though the documentary boasted a lyrical sax sound-track and close-ups of whirly fans and hidden microphones worthy of a thriller about some major heist, it exemplified the comic persistence of pathetically petty corruption in British public life.

Our Mr X was an umpire of 25 years' standing, a Conservative councillor and the chairman of a health authority, who risked his whole well-rewarded career for a quick £2,000. He may have broken Wimbledon's and gentlemen's rules, but not, I think, the laws of the land; and Bailey had "encouraged" a tout to name the guilty umpire rather than be the subject himself of a *Mirror* article. When the umpire learnt his game was up, he lamely offered a Thatcherite defence of market forces.

If it is difficult to be rumbled in good taste, it is impossible, according to Andy Warhol's former lawyer-business manager, Fred Hughes, to die in it. Hughes was delightedly authorizing on BBC2 in *Review's* intriguing film about Warhol's vast collection of artefacts, prior to the mammoth sale of them in New York. Connoisseurs mused and gazed over the values of jewels and junk but the lawyer's pearls stole the show.

Andrew Hislop

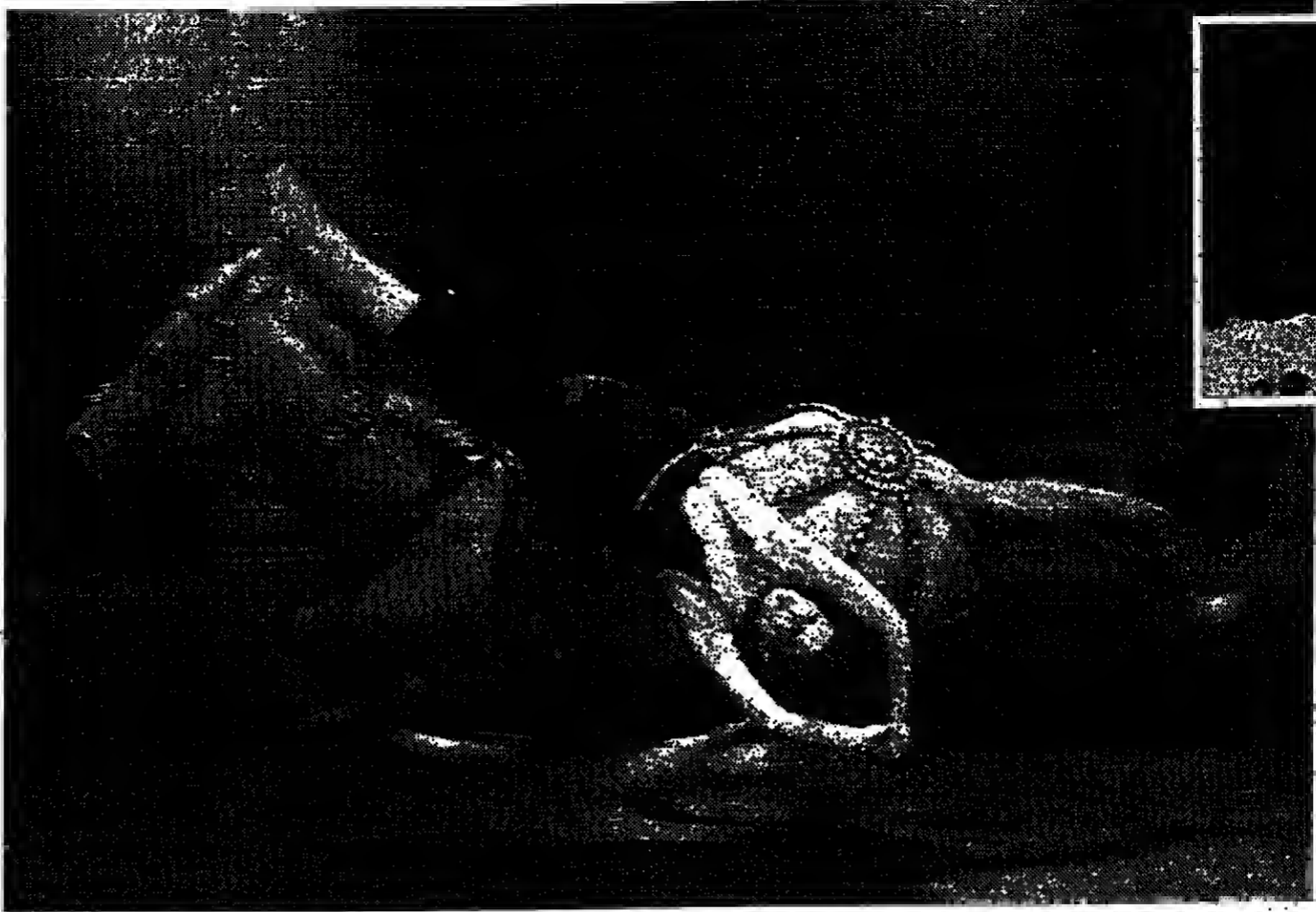
The Bolshoi of the Big Top

Richard Morrison on the Moscow State Circus, which this week begins a summer tour of Britain

As a celebration of human physique, co-ordination and nerve, the £6 million show which arrives in Britain this week probably has few equals. It is called the Moscow State Circus, but in fact it has been assembled by British impresarios of the ambitious Entertainment Corporation, who journeyed round the Soviet Union, selecting a dozen of the best acts from the enormous resources of *Soyuz Goscirk*, Union of Soviet Circuses.

Any resemblance between this Olympian display and the tacky parades of butter-fingered jugglers and faked tightrope acts which sometimes pass for circuses on waste-ground outside British towns is liable to be exceedingly slight (even though Britain invented the modern circus about 200 years ago, when an entrepreneurial Light Dragoon discovered there was money to be made from standing on a galloping horse).

The Russians, by contrast, take circus very seriously indeed. There are 70 permanent circuses in the Soviet Union; purpose-built (usually ring-shaped) theatres, lofty enough to contain the highest high-wires. *Soyuz Goscirk* employs around 15,000 performers and back-up staff. Many performers will have attended a specialist circus school from the age of 11, training every bit as rigorously as if their ambitions lay with the Bolshoi Ballet, the Tchaikovsky Piano Competition or the Olympic gymnastics squad. Then they embark on a nomadic existence, performing in perhaps six Soviet cities each year, but one which (unlike in British circuses) is financially secure and has a pension at the end.



Horsemanship: Annayev, of the Cossack Riding Troupe, shows off his skill. It is one of the few animal acts at the Moscow State Circus.

when they perform is not one of clockwork precision, but of breathtaking pace, improvisational exuberance and a high risk element. That was evident even in the dreary environment of Ryazan, a grey town 150 miles outside Moscow where the elite troupe earmarked for British consumption gathered to put the show together last month.

What is it that show? Most spectacularly, a thrilling high-wire act. Druzhin is a veteran (about 40) who walks the wire without safety net or harness. On his head he balances a pole, and on top of that his wife perches on one pointed foot. That is the easy bit. Then they begin to ascend a steeply sloping wire into the roof. The wire begins to shake, the

pair slip back time and again, but eventually reach the top. "The presence of Western journalists made the wire wet," explains Druzhin — an inscrutable remark, until one realizes that the performers were drenched in the perspiration of fear and determination.

Having walked 10,000 kilometres on the wire, Druzhin has long overcome the horror of falling for six months" when he first went into the business. Asked whether the business had changed much in 20 years, he replied drily that he personally welcomed the current Soviet crackdown on alcohol. "Vodka does affect your sense of balance."

The circus is stuffed with exceptional economically-clad maidens doing interesting things with trapeze with classical precision; the Shatins, who do the same sort of thing for laughs; and the Kaminskys, including a girl who does improbable back-somersaults on a three-inch-wide bender.

There are jugglers and trampolinists, too, and the unclassifiable Moscow Builders, whose "perch" routine, using eight men and two women, combines athleticism with some sly satirical digs at *perestroika*.

But they do always seem to involve economically-clad maidens doing interesting things with their torsos. The "snake girl of Lvov" walks on her hands while her legs are contorted backwards round her neck. Try it sometime.

Because of Britain's stringent quarantine regulations — and perhaps out of deference to our strong lobby against performing animals — the Russians are leaving their weirder animal acts at home. Those who desperately want to see skating bears playing ice hockey or chickens dancing *Swan Lake* must visit Moscow.

Crown: Anatoly Marchevsky, who has studied Benny Hill (his father, inconspicuously, Agriculture Minister in Turkmenistan and his brother plays violin in the Ashkhabad Philharmonic), rejects accusations of cruelty in his training methods, with a little speech straight out of medieval Persia. "I treat horses like women. Some respond to caresses, some to a strong hand, but never cruelty. And I always have a carrot in my pocket."

The star of this Big Top, however, is the clown Anatoly Marchevsky, widely regarded as his apparent 'Oleg Popov'. Marchevsky is young, fanatically perfectionist, not especially poised for modesty or a sense of humour outside the ring, and very prickly about comparisons between himself and the legendary Popov. Yet to watch his act on *Ohello* reduce crowds of Ryazan children to hysterical giggles is to see a great circus clown in his prime.

He is unlikely to do that particular routine in Britain; perhaps judging that detailed allusions to Shakespeare would be quite beyond the average British audience. But we will see his delightful reworking of the Chaplin "park statue" sketch. What, incidentally, does he know of current British humour? "I have seen all of Benny Hill on video," he replies, alarmingly.

The Moscow State Circus opens in Battersea Park, London, next Saturday before visiting Norwich, Northampton, Birmingham, Nottingham, York, Glasgow, Newcastle, Manchester, Cardiff, Bristol and Bournemouth.

THE MICHAEL PETERS PORTOBELLO CONTEMPORARY ART FESTIVAL
21-24 April
Thursday-Saturday 11am-8pm
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11 galleries in and around the Portobello Road

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"acutely observed... superb"
"an unarguable mistress of the role, inimitably vivid"

OPERA
L'elisir d'amore
La Scala, Milan

Why does La Scala's new *Elisir d'amore* focus almost exclusively on Adina? The answer is threefold: the part is sung by Marie McLaughlin, the director is a woman, and Pavarotti is ill.

Very witty, dear boy
THEATRE
Easy Virtue
Garrick

The most likely explanation for the long neglect of this early Coward play is its large cast of 19, eight of whom appear only in the dance scene of the last act in gossip on the sidelines (where Coward, always the craftsman, gives each of them something useful to say) and to form an audience for the splendidly grand *dénoûment*.

CONCERT
Philharmonia/Slatkin
Festival Hall

With Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1 and Brahms's First Symphony dominating the programme, it is a wonder that last night's concert did not start off yet another new South Bank series called Beginning Games. And it was quite some beginning in the whirl of Berlioz's *Le Carnaval romain* overture, Leonard Slatkin started as he meant to go on.

Come and see Adeline at Christie's
VINCENT VAN GOGH'S portrait of Adeline Ravoux, painted in June 1890 a month before his death, will be on view at Christie's, King Street this Sunday (2 p.m. - 5 p.m.), Monday and Tuesday (9 a.m. - 4.45 p.m.)

Man or mouse?
Treats Watermans
Christopher Hampton's comedy was given a rough ride when it first appeared at the Royal Court in 1976. Spectators (like me) who may then have missed the point are now invited to bracket it with *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* as parallel study of "sexual ascendancy" written as a mid-century counterpart to *A Doll's House*.

OPERA HOLIDAYS IN ITALY
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مركز الأصيل

مكازم الأرحيل

REVIEW

The great escape



Sharon Gange

Doing Daily Battle, by Fatima Mernissi (The Women's Press, £5.95) Sequins for a Ragged Hen, by Amyrl Johnson (Virago, £4.95)

"No, I didn't do anything for eight years. I ate and slept, that is all. It was the slaves who did the housekeeping." This is life in the harem described by one of the women in Doing Daily Battle...

Fatima Mernissi's aim is to show that the women of Morocco do have a voice, and that the days of secluded harem idleness, where women's only contribution to the GNP was babies, are over.

Throughout the hook Mernissi points out the irony of the fact that when the Moroccan nationalists succeeded in throwing out their colonial masters and establishing a new democracy, industrialized, educated Morocco, they left half the population out of it.

The most bizarre history is that of Habiba, who discovered her vocation as a mystic at the age of 50, and now makes a good living holding seances. Unlike most of the others, she has a successful marriage partnership, her husband even assisting her in her work.

Other marriages do not seem so satisfactory from the women's point of view. Arranged marriages, polygamy, child brides, and the fact that the husband has only to say "I repudiate you" over the breakfast table for a woman to find herself divorced and out on the street, contribute to this impression.

The suspicion lurks in the reader's mind that perhaps this internationally renowned sociologist discovered a whole

secret she had to throw the small corpse into the river and begin work, scrubbing floors, at dawn the next day.

It should be pointed out that the insight into Moroccan society we are offered is not exactly bang-up-to-date. The book was originally published in France in 1984 but most of the interviews took place between 1973 and 1977, and so

The women's stories are ones of hardship and injustice, and often incredible determination and courage.

take no account of the developments of the last 10 years. The suspicion lurks in the reader's mind that perhaps this internationally renowned sociologist discovered a whole

pile of interviews left over from her research for UNESCO or whatever, and decided she could get a bit more mileage out of them.

Sequins for a Ragged Hen offers an insight into a foreign culture of a very different nature. Amyrl Johnson was born in Trinidad and came to England when she was 11. A poet whose work has been previously published by Virago, this book is the record of a six-month trip to the Caribbean.

It is a search, not for her personal, individual roots in

Trinidad, but for a sort of collective cultural inheritance, where her people's history of exploitation and slavery and their present day struggle for wealth and independence find their place. A lot of partying goes on too.

The book is an odd mixture of styles - sometimes rather flatly and clumsily written, at others soaring off into rich poetic flights. These passages occasionally left me unsure of what exactly was going on, and the effect can be bathetic when applied to the more mundane events. However, when it works it is very powerful. And she has a wonderful ear for the musical flow of the local speech - makes you want to read the dialogue out loud.

Annabel Edwards

After the triumph of The Mahabharata in Glasgow's former transport museum, I discover that secret negotiations are on to transfer there another Peter Brook production, The Cherry Orchard, next spring. The play, which recently won excellent notices at the Majestic in Brooklyn, stars Linda Hunt, best known for The Year of Living Dangerously, and Brook's wife, Natasha Parry.

So Sir Michael Tippett will be at Covent Garden on Friday for The Knave Garden to hear it performed as intended for the first time since he composed it in 1970. Both then and at its revival in 1972, no musician

Tippett and Edwards could be found to master the complexities of the electric guitar part and it was played instead on keyboard. For next week, however, a guitarist has been found. He is Steve Smith, a Royal Northern College of Music contemporary of Sian Edwards, the Royal Opera's first ever woman conductor, who will be waving the baton on Friday.

In only its second year, Portobello Contemporary Art Festival has been renamed the Michael Peters Portobello Contemporary Art Festival. The reason is that Peters has stepped in as sponsor and donated the services of his design company. Sadly, the exhibition catalogue is littered with mistakes, including the transposition of two galleries' shows.

The Armistice Festival, a celebration of artists killed in the Great War, has finally found a British painter to join the German impressionists in its forthcoming art show at Oxford. On paper, Tim Cross has learned of Geoffrey S. Allfree, a watercolourist who became a lieutenant in the Royal Navy and was drowned at sea in 1918. Now Cross wants more details of Allfree.

Andrew Billen

BRIDGE

Testing the tough

The "Reisinger", one of the only surviving Board-a-match team events, is the centre piece of the American Fall Nationals. The result of any hand is a win, a tie or a loss, irrespective of the size of the swing. Superficially it sounds silly, in practice, it leads to every-thing!

Some years ago, the American Contract Bridge League announced that it intended to change the method of scoring to the popular Swiss format. For once, this was enough to overcome the apathy of top bridge players. Almost to a man they objected with such spirit that the League was persuaded to leave well alone.

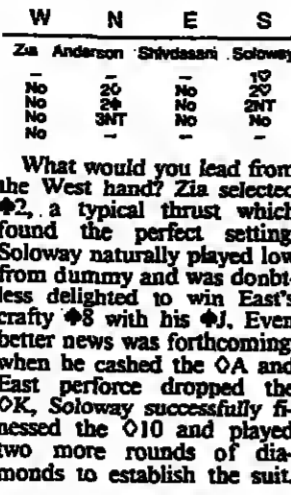
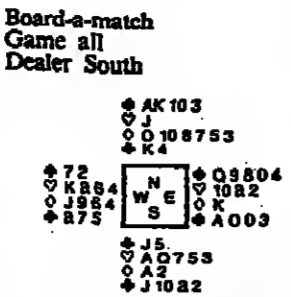
The Reisinger is possibly the toughest event in the world. This year three of the 10 finalists contained players who have won the World Championship. Indeed, four of the American team which won in Ocho Rios last October had to be content with finishing equal sixth.

The convincing winners were: Zia Mahmood (Pakistan), Jaggy Shivdasani (India), Billy Cohen (Canada), and Ron Smith (USA). This victory was especially sweet for Zia, who sees it as a reinforcement for his belief that bridge can play a significant role in breaking down political and racial barriers.

A Moslem playing with a Hindu and a black Christian playing with a white Jew. You couldn't find a greater ethnic pot pourri, he exclaimed.

The hand occurred in the key clash between Zia's team and a team of former world champions.

Reisinger Trophy Jeremy Flint



What would you lead from the West hand? Zia selected ♠2, a typical thrust which found Soloway naturally played low from dummy and was doubtless delighted to win East's crafty ♠8 with his ♠J. Even better news was forthcoming when he cashed the ♠A and East perforce dropped the ♠K. Soloway successfully finessed the ♠10 and played two more rounds of diamonds to establish the suit.

Zia won the fourth round of diamonds and quietly produced the ♠7. Put yourself in Soloway's shoes. What would you do, bearing in mind that overtricks are crucial in Board-a-match scoring? Soloway inserted dummy's ♠10. Shivdasani won with the ♠Q. Shivdasani switched to a heart. Dummy was dead. The certain nine tricks available a few moments before melted into seven, as the defence enjoyed their tricks in hearts and clubs.

Karpov cannot, of course, capture this Knight, but while ignoring the intrusion the former champion's next few moves are a marvel of consolidating strategy.

CHESS

Flames of defeat

Joo Spielman had a heroic start in the Swift World Cup Tournament in Brussels. He leapt into an early lead and even inflicted a sharp defeat on the great Victor Korchnoi.

Unfortunately, however, he fainted against the back marker Sax, from Hungary, and in the following round went down in flames to the former world champion Karpov, who thereupon seized the lead himself. Here it is that fierce clash between Britain and Russia.

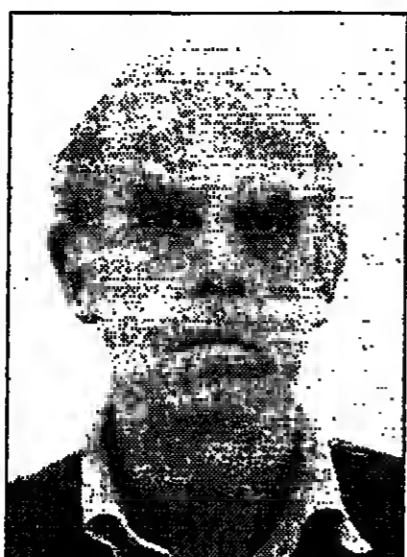
Black: White Anatoly Karpov; Black: Joo Spielman, Queen's Gambit Accepted.

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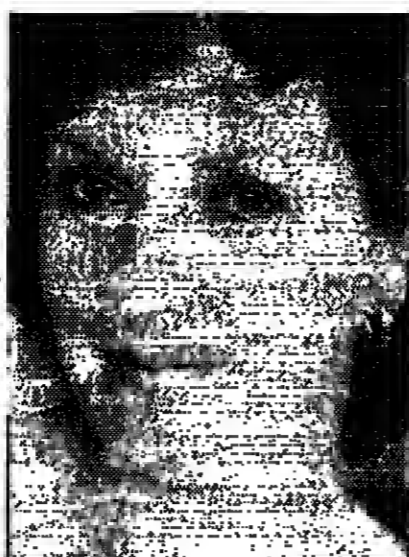
THEATRE

FLO'S SHOW: Florenz Ziegfeld Jr (1867-1932), the American showman and theatrical producer whose Broadway follies made him a byword for extravagance, is the subject of a new musical show, Flo's Show, now reviewing. Harold Fielding has engaged Joe Layton as director and choreographer. Len Cariou as Mr Z, and Ned Sherrin and Alistair Beaton to provide the book. Theoni V. Aldreda's costumes have been consistently stopping the show at previews. London Palladium (01-437 7373). Opens Tuesday.



GALLERIES

SOFT OPTION: Claes Oldenburg is the archetypal pop artist. He is famous for foam-filled cloth sculptures such as giant typewriters, ash-trays and toilets, and his celebrated collage of images of Piccadilly Circus replete with a cluster of ICBM lipsticks. An exhibition, the first in this country since his retrospective at the Tate Gallery 17 years ago, is being held in Leeds, featuring all aspects of his work. "A Bottle of Notes" and "Soma Voyages" is at Leeds City Art Gallery (0532-462451). From Wed.



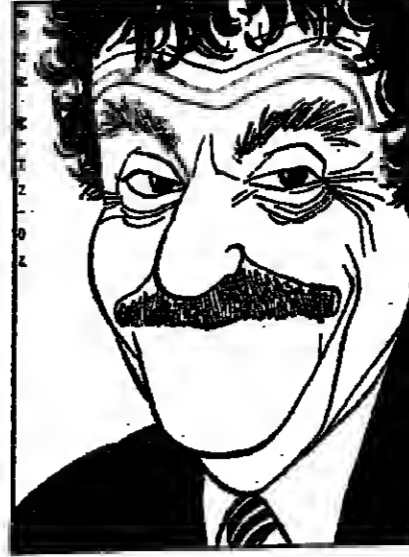
OPERA

WIDE RANGING: Anne Howells has tackled most of the mezzo-soprano repertory, from Mozart to contemporary opera, since her Covent Garden debut just over 20 years ago. On Friday she sings Thea, the wife of a wealthy engineer, in Nicholas Hytner's new production of The Knot Garden, by Sir Michael Tippett. Thereafter it is back to Mozart and, rather more surprisingly, Despatch in Così fan tutte in new productions both in the Royal Opera House and in Los Angeles. Royal Opera House. (01-240 1066).



CONCERTS

WELCOME GUEST: Bernard Haitink relinquishes his usual operatic concerns tomorrow evening to renew his link with the London Philharmonic, of which he became a guest conductor in 1964 and Principal Conductor from 1967 to 1979. Operetta will in fact be represented by the overture to Johann Strauss II's Die Fledermaus, but the main item is Symphony No 1 by Mahler, whose music was originally one of the chief bases of Haitink's repertoire. Royal Festival Hall (01-926 3191), 7.30pm.



BOOKS

SOLDIER BLUES: Kurt Vonnegut's particular brand of deadly serious flip humour is once again deployed in his latest novel, Bluebeard (Jonathan Cape, £10.95), published next week. Rabo Karabekian is a one-eyed, old, Armenian soldier, a footnote in art history as a pioneer and collector of abstract Expressionist art, who is trying to write his autobiography. But the Widow Berman, a nosy, manipulative author of novels about abortion, is moving in, threatening to bring new life to him. "She scares the pants off me," he says.



ROCK

DAY'S DEBUT: Morris Day, the sassily soul-funk singer who played Prince a south-rival in Purple Rain, tonight. Although born in Springfield, Illinois, and now resident in Los Angeles, Day won renown as a key figure in the influential network of Minneapolis musicians, notably as front man of the Time, a platinum-selling group which included the celebrated production team of Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. Tonight and tomorrow, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081).

THEATRE LONDON

ALPHA BETA: George Costigan and Gillian Brown in Ted Whitehead's exhorting study of an impossible marriage. Man in the Moon, 352 Kings Road, London SW3 (01-237 6176). Previews from Tues. Opens May 5. CELEBRATIONS: Gayle Hunnicutt hosts an afternoon prize-winning plays written and performed by children; 2.30pm. Sylvester McCoy hosts a fund-raising auction. Lunch 1.30pm. Unicorn Theatre, The Arts, Great Newport Street, London WC2 (01-836 3334). Sun.

CHILDREN'S ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE: Princess Margaret attends an NSPCC charity show featuring Ken Dodd, Norman Wisdom, Michael Barrymore, The Muppets, Vienna Boys' Choir, and many more. Victoria Palace (01-242 1626 for tickets). Sun, 7pm.

THE WINTER'S TALE: Eileen Atkins, Sally Dexter, Shirley Henderson, Tim Pigott-Smith, Ken Stott, directed by Peter Hall. Cottesloe (01-928 2252). Previews from Thurs. Opens May 18. In repertory.

OUT OF TOWN

BELFAST: The Loves of Cass McGuire: Brian Friel play about a woman returning to Ireland after 50 years in the United States. Lyric Players (0232 381081). Opens Wed.

CARDIFF: A Blow to Brute Street: An elderly local jazz musician relives his youth. Sherman (0222 30451). Opens Tues.

PETERBOROUGH: Russell of the Times: James Hayes's one-man show about the 19th century war correspondent. Start of a tour. Epsom College, Epsom Surrey (tickets not generally available). Mon, 7.30pm. Stahl Theatre, West Strat, Oxindie, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire (0632 73330). Wed, 7.45pm. Riverside Studios, London W6 (01-748 3354). May 13, 14.

EXETER: Simplicity: Premiere of a newly discovered early 18th century comedy, written by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Northcott (0592 54583). Opens Tues.

GUILDFORD: Sufficiently Sophisticated: A steam touring company in Dennis Potter's only play (so far) written for the stage. Mill Studio, Yvonne Arnaud (0483 60191). Tues and Wed. Moves to Wide Theatre, Bracknell, Berkshire (0344 484123). Thurs to Apr 30.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: Macbeth: Miles Anderson as Macbeth, Duncan Bell as Malcolm, in a re-cast revival of the 1986 Adrian Noble production. Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295623). Previews from Thurs. Opens May 4. In repertory.

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: This is the week of the Royal Opera Midland Bank Proms: 350 tickets at £4, one per applicant, on sale one hour before curtain up. Queue early. Sian Edwards conducts new Nicholas Hytner production of Tippett's The Knot Garden, opening on Fri at 8pm. Last performances on Tues and next Sat of Sir Peter Hall's new Salome. On Mon and Thurs, at 7.30pm, further performances of Lucia di Lammermoor. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Revival of Così fan tutte, this time with Felicity Lott and Della Jones, opens on Wed at 7pm (also on Fri). Nicholas Hytner's Magic Flute continues its run on Tues and

WORD-WATCHING

CHERUBIMICAL (b) One of 227 synonyms for the condition of being drunk, including nimp-tactical, listed by Benjamin Franklin.

SANEMACOGNA (a) Italian-American euphemism for the already euphemistic son-of-a-gaz.

INSOLATE (c) To expose plants (or bodies) to the sun; from the Latin in and sol the sun. INFRACANINOPHILE (c) A champion of the underdog; literal dog Latin translation: coined by Christopher Morley in his preface to The Complete Sherlock Holmes.

RADIO

Thurs at 7pm; and a welcome revival of The Makropoulos Case tonight and next Sat at 7.30pm. Coliseum, St Martins Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

SCOTTISH OPERA: Welcome and strongly cast revival of Britten's Death in Venice tonight and Thurs at 7.15pm, with a matinee on Sat April 30. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041-331 1234).

HIS MASTERS VOICE. The story of the famous HMV trademark (above), featuring Nipper the dog, is told by Robin Ray in Revolutions in Sound, a six-part series celebrating the centenary of the gramophone. The first gramophone was demonstrated by his German-born inventor, Emile Berliner, in Philadelphia, on May 16 1888. The first records measured 5 inches across, the same dimensions as today's compact disc. Radio 4, tomorrow, 3.30-4pm.

SOMETHING TO BE SPARED: Ronald Pickup, Sarah Badel and Janet Maw lead Margaret Gillard's play about the writer Edward Thomas, and his friendship with Eleanor Farjeon. Radio 4, Mon, 8.15-9.45pm.

FREEWHEELING: Barry Norman hosts a new weekly guide to what's on where, plus a codecracker competition. Radio 4, Fri, 6.30-7pm.

THE PIED PIPER (15): Extraordinary Czech animated version of the fairy-tale, with puppets carved from walnuts. Everyman Hampstead (01-435 1525), from Sun.

PROMISED LAND (15): Amieus young lives in Middle America. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148), from Fri.

RETRIBUTION (18): Dennis Quaid as a would-be suicide whose body is taken over by a murder victim bent on revenge. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527), Cannon Shaftsbury Avenue (01-839 6279), from Fri.

FILMS

GARRICK OHLSSON: This distinguished pianist in Weber's Sonata No 1, Schubert's Klaversonate D 946, Debussy's Images II, Samuel Barber's Sonata. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Wed, 7.30pm.

FROM BIRMINGHAM: The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in Ravel's Daphnis et Chloe Suite No 2, Weber's Six Pieces and Stravinsky's Apollo. Barbican Centre, Thurs, 7.15pm.

GALA ECO: The Prince of Wales hears the ECO under Jeffrey Tate play Foss's A Baritone's Requiem, Mozart's Piano Concerto K 503, Haydn's Symphony No 99. Barbican Centre, Tues, 7.45pm.

GALA MESSIAH: The Duchess of Gloucester hears Handel's Messiah by the Philharmonia Chorus, Orchestra and soloists. Festival Hall, Mon, 7.30pm.

GALA MESSIAH II: Samuel Barber's Sonata. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Wed, 7.30pm.

FROM BIRMINGHAM: The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in Ravel's Daphnis et Chloe Suite No 2, Weber's Six Pieces and Stravinsky's Apollo. Barbican Centre, Thurs, 7.15pm.

DANCE

ROYAL BALLET: Fiona Chadwick dances Swan Lake tonight; Maria Almeida takes the lead this afternoon and at Wednesday's Prom performance. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

NORTHERN BALLET: A Simple Man continues until Tuesday; then Coppola Thursday to April 30. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8518).

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Two more performances at Bradford today of an attractive programme including Carmen and Eddies; then Makarova's Swan Lake at Oxford, Monday to April 30. Alhambra, Bradford (0274-752000), Apollo, Oxford (0868-244554).

CONCERTS

FOSS'S RENAISSANCE: James Galway with the LSO under David Zinman in Lukas Foss's Renaissance Flute Concerto. The orchestra also contributes Richard Strauss's Don Juan and Dvorak's Symphony No 8. Barbican Centre, Sat, London EC1 (01-628 8795; cc 01-638 8881). Today, 7.45pm.

STRAUSS GAMES: As part of the End Games series on the South Bank, Richard Strauss's Symphonic Fragments from Die Liebe der Danae, his Four Last Songs (Ailsun Hagan, soprano), Till Eulenspiegel and Rosenkavalier Suite are heard from the Philharmonia Orchestra under Andrew Davis. Festival Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

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GALLERIES

SIR PETER PAUL RUBENS: Drawings by the Flemish painter. Christ Church Gallery, Oxford (0865 276175). From Monday.

ROBERT HERDMAN (1829-1886): popular Scottish narrative and history painter. National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh (031-556 8921). From Thursday.

L. S. LOWRY (1887-1976): exhibition of 60 paintings. Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter (0392-265858). From today.

THE GRAPHIC LANGUAGE OF NEVILLE BRODY: Works by the young designer and typographer of, among other publications, The Face, Arena and City Limits. Victoria & Albert Museum, London SW7 (01-938 8363). From Wednesday.

PHOTOGRAPHY

LONDON PHOTOGRAPHY FAIR: 36 stands with postcards, photographic books, rare old prints and work by modern unknowns. Prices £5-£50, average price around £15. The Photographers' Gallery, 5 and 8 Gt Newport St, London, WC2. Tomorrow, 11am-5pm.

AN HISTORIC PUB WALK - MAYFAIR: meet today, Green Park tube, 7.30pm, £2.25.

1880s EAST END MURDERS: meet tomorrow, Tower Hill tube, 2pm, £2.25.

JAZZ

SONNY ROLLINS: The saxophonist's quartet appears on the same bill as Stan Tracey's big band. Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191) (Tues: Usher Hall, Edinburgh (01-228 1155) Thurs.

JAMES MOODY: The reeds player's most recent recording was the amiable RCA album Something Special. Ronnie Scott's Club, London W1, (01-439 0747) Mon to Sat.

DUKE ELLINGTON ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

The Midnite Folies Orchestra lead the annual tribute with the help of the singer Adelaide Hall. Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191) tonight.

FILMS ON TV

James Cagney (above) and director Raoul Walsh were usually associated with action pictures, and in 1941 they collaborated on one of the best of the Warner Brothers gangster cycle, The Roaring Twenties. Two years later they teamed again for a very different subject, a sentimental period comedy, The Strawberry Blonde, in which Cagney plays a Brooklyn dentist who falls in love with Rita Hayworth, loses her, and marries Olivia de Havilland on the rebound. Channel 4, Wednesday, 12.20-2.10am.

DEAD RECKONING (1947): Tagged, atmospheric film noir with Humphrey Bogart as a war veteran going south to investigate the murder of an old buddy. Channel 4, Tues, 2.30-4.20pm.

TELEVISION

BOOKMARK: Literary guide to the Bible, with contributions from P. D. James, Peter Shaffer, Dan Jacobson, and readings by Anthony Hopkins. BBC2, Wed, 7.55-9pm.

1968 - POWER TO THE IMAGINATION: A documentary on the 1968 student uprisings, followed by discussion on what the protest movement achieved. Channel 4, Fri, 8-9.30pm and 11.45pm-12.50am.

ANGLIA As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. BORDER As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. CENTRAL As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. CHANNEL As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. GRAMPAIN As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. GRANADA As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. HTV WEST As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. HTV WALES As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. SCOTTISH As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. TSW As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. TVS As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. TYNE TEES As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. ULSTER As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News. YORKSHIRE As London except 1.30am-12.00 America's Top Ten 5.30am-5.15 News.

Brokers who went for broke

Oliver Stone's first film since the Academy Award-winning Platoon takes him from Vietnam to the financial battlefields of Manhattan in the hectic years of 1985-6, when the hull market erupted like a volcano. In Wall Street, the battle now is to make money ("It's all about bucks, kid; the rest is conversation"). Old-fashioned morality never enters into things ("Greed is good"); the enemy are not the Vietnam but rival financiers, and the war allows no time off ("Lunch? You've got to be kidding. Lunch is for wimps!"). The quotations come from Gordon Gekko, the multi-millionaire wheeler-dealer played by Michael Douglas with sufficient insidious charm to win him this year's Oscar for Best Actor.

He sits in a vast, vulgar office festooned with modern paintings, hatching share manipulations and take-overs. He is the spider; the fly caught in his web is Bud Fox (played by Charlie Sheen, also featured in Platoon), a young eager-beaver broker who comes to Gekko with inside information about the hidden potential of Blue Star Airlines. The stage is set for an instructive tale of insider dealing, sudden riches, and fathers and sons at loggerheads (Bud Fox's father is a Blue Star employee; he is played, appropriately, by Charlie Sheen's father, Martin). Oliver Stone's own father was a stockbroker and writer on economics, and Stone knows the jungle well: "There is no physical violence on Wall Street, but tensions and mental violence are a way of life down there. These men and women really live on stock-and-bond high wire acts - taking over companies, structuring the capital of this country and shaping the



Wall Street warrior: Michael Douglas as Gordon Gekko, the man who believes that "lunch is for wimps" makes everything look convincingly hideous. In America, Wall Street failed to achieve either the critical or commercial success of American life in Talk Radio, a film based on Eric Bogosian's play about a late-night radio talk show host.

Geoff Brown Wall Street (15) opens in London at the Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111), on Friday.

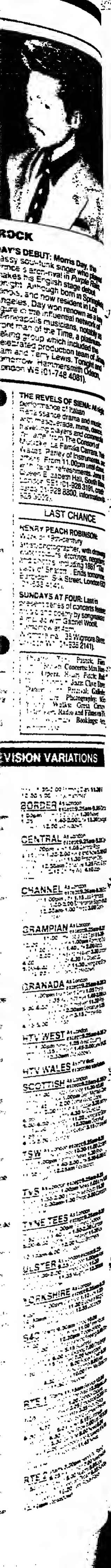
كازمان الازهر

SATURDAY

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

SUNDAY



Doctors to Be (BBC2, today and tomorrow, 7.15pm, concluding on Monday) is a three-part series from Horizon following the progress of student medics through St Mary's Hospital Medical School...

CHOICE

right answers and who will crack under the pressure. Programme two introduces another nail-biter for exam results to be waiting...



Some of the medical students at St Mary's who survived the ordeal by interview (Horizon - Doctors to Be, BBC2, 7.15pm)



Tim Pigott-Smith (left) gets a helping hand from Sir Peter Hall during rehearsals (South Bank Show, ITV, 10.30pm)

CHOICE

Sir Peter Hall's farewell offering as director of the National Theatre is three late Shakespeare plays, produced in parallel with the same group of actors...

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University. 6.55 SuperTed (1, 8-30). The Family-Ness (1). 6.58 The Muppet Show (1). 9.00 On the Waterfront. A new series of comedy, games and music...

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University. 2.45 Network East, Asian current affairs and entertainment series. 3.25 Film: Nick Carter - A New Detective (1938, b/w) starring Walter Pidgeon and Rita Johnson...

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am with news and weather at 6.22. 6.25 Get Fresh at the Maritime Museum in Exeter 11.00 Paddy Bowser's Cartoons. 12.00 Wrestling from Northampton Community Centre...

CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 Old Country (1, 10-00) Mynoponyer (1). 10.30 Film: The Punished Man in the World (1967, colour and b/w) a compilation tracing the career of Charlie Chaplin...

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University. 6.55 Play School 9.15. Articles of Faith 9.30. This is the Day from a viewer's home in Fulham...

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University. Until 10.08. 1.10 Horizon: Easter Island - the Story (1). (Coefax). 2.00 International Rugby Special: Nigel Starmer-weather underwatches highlights of the games between Ireland and England...

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am. 6.30 David Frost on Sunday. Among the guests is Michael Howard MP. Andrew Neil and Ewan Stewart review the morning's newspapers...

CHANNEL 4

- 6.25 Teena Kinnair. Episode three of the 26-part Pakistani drama. 6.30 Settlers' Tales. Cameo portraits of first generation Asian immigrants...

WORLD SERVICE. All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST. 6.00 Newsweek. 6.30 Jazz for the Ashing...

Radio 3. 6.55 Weather, News headlines. 7.00 Morning Concert: Weber cantata (dedicated to the Dance Berlin PO under von Karajan)...

Radio 4. 1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby with Kenneth Baker MP. Baroness Seaser, Jack Straw MP and Germaine Greer (1). 6.58 Shipping 1.45 Shipping Prayer for the Day 6.59 Weather...

Radio 5. 6.55 BBC Singers in Denmark (see below). Nielsen's Benedictus Dominus; Sven-David Sandstrom's Agnus Dei...

Radio 2. 6.00 Nicky Campbell 6.00 Peter Power 10.00 Dave Lee Travis. 4.00 News 5.15 The Pleasure's Yours 6.15 The Pleasure's Yours 6.15 The Pleasure's Yours...

Radio 1. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Sunday Studies: Claudio Arrau (piano) plays a selection of Liszt's Transcendental Studies...

Radio 3. 12.05 Words with Raymond Tallis, Professor of Geriatric Medicine at Manchester University. 12.10 Heinrich Schiff and Roger Vogeler: Cello and Piano...

Radio 4. 6.30 Revolutions in Sound (new series): Robin Ray presents the first of six programmes celebrating 100 years of the gramophone (8)...

Regional TV: on facing page. Includes listings for various regional channels like BBC1, BBC2, ITV, Channel 4, and local radio stations.

WORLD SERVICE. All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST. 6.00 Newsweek. 6.30 Jazz for the Ashing. 7.00 World News Supplement. 7.45 Book Club. 8.00 World News Supplement. 8.30 World News Supplement...

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Hurd moves to block terror funds

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Tough new action against terrorist finance was promised yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary. The Government intends to legislate to "broaden and strengthen an attack on terrorist funding," he said.

The measures are expected to be introduced in a new Prevention of Terrorism Bill to come into force about next March. The Home Office is talking about powers to freeze terrorist assets but not yet to seize them, though that has not been ruled out.

Mr Hurd's announcement was made in the knowledge that international terrorist groups have used the United Kingdom for laundering their funds. He is aware of evidence that funds have been raised in Britain by groups to buy arms and explosives. The accumulation of cash could help terrorists to put down deep roots in society, Mr Hurd said.

Existing legislation penalizes the giving and receiving of funds for Northern Ireland terrorists. Now ministers are examining a proposal that the law should be widened to cover international terrorism. The Government is also considering methods to enforce disclosure of funds for terrorism held in British banks, so that a transfer could be blocked.

Mr Hurd, opening a conference on the rule of law and control of terrorism, saw a parallel between the finances of drug trafficking and terrorism. The Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 holds that it is an offence to knowingly launder funds of drug traffickers.

Pen behind the masque

Continued from page 1

Anne, daughter of Alice, Dowager Countess of Derby, to Lord Chandos in 1607. "My only ancestor of that period who was named Anne died in 1550", the present Lord Derby said at his home at Knowsley Hall yesterday.

But Professor Levi's dating of the manuscript was supported yesterday by Dr Jean Wilson of Cambridge, an authority on Elizabethan entertainments. The disputed poems are assumed to have been written for a masque at the home of the Countess of Derby's daughter, Lady Huntingdon, with each verse intended to accompany the presentation of a gift to each of the lady guests.

"The professor has the date wrong by only one year; this is

clearly part of masque written by John Marston and performed at Ashby-de-la-Zouch in 1606. The Countess of Derby had three daughters named Jane, Frances and Elizabeth, but in some contemporary sources Jane is referred to as "Anne", Dr Wilson said.

"There is, however, no reason to believe that the poems are the work of anyone other than the 17th-century dramatist John Marston, who wrote the rest of this particular masque."

Mr Francis Carr, editor of the bulletin *Who Was Shakespeare?* said yesterday that he had studied the facsimile of the original and had concluded from the handwriting that the author was probably Francis Bacon.

European Airbus colours go on show



The new generation of the European Airbus, the A320, on a family outing over Europe yesterday. British Airways took delivery this month of the first of 10 of the 152-seat short-haul model, and that aircraft joined its fellows from Air France and Air Inter, the French internal airlines, in a formation flight over the South of France to mark the occasion (David Sapatist writes). The aircraft leading the way in the photograph is the A320 demonstrator, which is at the head of the worldwide sales drive for the \$25 million A320, of which more than 400 have been ordered by operators in 18 countries. The Airbus consortium of manufacturers from Britain, France, West Germany and Spain is hopeful of a deal with Air Canada and, also, that British Airways might eventually buy 40 of the aircraft, mainly to replace the ageing fleet of BAC-111s. BA did not originally buy the A320 but agreed to

Haughey attacks British policy in Ulster

Thatcher brushes aside criticisms

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

Mrs Thatcher yesterday brushed aside attacks on British policy in Northern Ireland by Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, as aimed directly at appeasing his Irish-American friends and critics at home who accuse him of being "soft".

The Prime Minister made clear that although she regretted his comments she is hoping Mr Haughey's speeches in New York and Boston, in which he called for "a new political structure" in the Province, will not dent the Anglo-Irish Agreement nor signal any long-term hardening in Dublin's attitude.

A senior Government source reported that the Prime Minister was "sorry" rather than angry that Mr Haughey appeared to be knocking the Anglo-Irish Agreement which had made "an important contribution towards peace and stability in Ulster".

He repeated his Govern-

ment's commitment to Irish unity as a political goal, while condemning the IRA's campaign of violence. "The challenge that we face over Northern Ireland is to create a solution that will restore political cohesion through the exercise of self-determination by the Irish people."

In an implicit rebuke of the British security forces he added: "Democratic Parliaments today have cause to be concerned about the control and methods of operation of their own and other countries' intelligence services and security forces."

He told supporters of his Fianna Fail party in New York that the situation in Northern Ireland had worsened in spite of the Anglo-Irish agreement.

A solution guaranteed to last and to bring peace and stability will be found only in a new political structure, he said.

Failure to prosecute those involved in the alleged shoot-to-kill policy, coupled with the rejection of the appeal by the Birmingham Six pub bombers had serious implications for public confidence in the administration of justice.

He referred to the shooting by security officers of three IRA terrorists in Gibraltar saying: "The rule of law must be paramount in a civilized society. To retain its moral authority the state must always uphold the law."

Mr Alan Dukes, leader of Ireland's main opposition party Fine Gael, criticised Mr Haughey's speech, saying: "He has put in jeopardy the whole process of resolving the conflict in Northern Ireland."

Agreement. Mr Desmond O'Malley, leader of the Progressive Democrats, accused Mr Haughey of having a "grudging and minimalist attitude" to the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

No-strike pledge led to nurses' big pay rise

Continued from page 1

award yesterday as a cynical vote-catching bribe.

He said pay was only part of the problem. Talking to residents at a sheltered accommodation unit at Wolverhampton, Mr Kinnoch said no-one would be fooled by the Government's apparent generosity.

"It is not going to make provision for the changes in the age of the population or changes in medical technology necessary to be met in order to get the health service out of crisis and keep it out of crisis."

The National Association of Health Authorities said the rises could improve recruitment and retention of nurses but would do little to help authorities which still face cash problems. "Health authorities are still facing financial difficulties caused by previous underfunding and uncertainty over other pay awards which still have to be agreed."

Health authorities have only been funded to cover a 4.5 per cent increase for all other staff groups, Mr Neil Kinnoch described the nurses' award yesterday as a cynical vote-catching bribe.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,651

Word search puzzle grid with clues. The grid is a 13x13 square with black squares indicating non-letter positions. Clues are provided for both across and down directions.

ACROSS

- 1 Sounds like this, we hear? Just the reverse (9).
- 2 Criminal procrastination, for example (5).
- 3 Compliant could make Pluto rage (9).
- 4 Equivalent of stops at sea (5, 2).
- 5 Furniture - late rather than early Adam (7).
- 6 It can be used to dig up allotment... (5).
- 7 ... and scatter hay round unusual garden shrub (9).
- 8 Rubbish removed from 4 (3).
- 9 Ornate piece of work for mending cardinal's robe (6, 5).
- 10 Prayer that can be uplifting for people (11).
- 11 Impair - cut out odd bits? (3).
- 12 Reduce volumes in balance (9).
- 13 Roused the eccentric out of bed (3, 2).
- 14 Very large problem to capture river animal (7).
- 15 Writer in fighting form turns to large book (7).
- 16 Navy getting positive vote before long (5).
- 17 Purify with scent if I'd made a mess (9).

DOWN

- 1 Race in sea 'aze, so to speak (5).
- 2 Tough six-footer gets many parts in pictures (4, 3).
- 3 Complaint could make Pluto rage (9).
- 4 British poet remaining inside association (11).
- 5 Aim for goal in close finish (3).
- 6 It's the eighth letter of alphabet, note (5).
- 7 Understanding in mind proverbially must be so (7).
- 8 Flock to direction of fold (9).
- 9 Harmful enough to destroy us going about the city (11).
- 10 Company store (9).
- 11 Temple concerned with exalting some female (9).
- 12 Boy put up a high shot in game where win follows draw (7).
- 13 Marathon leader on flat surface changing often (7).
- 14 Writer with nibs and pen starts off (5).
- 15 Assume one is employed? (5).
- 16 It's not clear what black sheep's name is (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,645
LITOTES POTNERB
DEU A LALBU
WARDLEFLY SWELL
ERRIE SWGL
STAMP TECTONICS
TGTY THNISE
PETROCHEMISTRY
TREAHEMENE
WORCESTERSAUCE
AUUCCLMMHH
DEBAUCHEE OZONE
DOPPARCARCA
LOOPS MADHATTER
RWEAEATA
RINGTAW ROADWAY

Solution to Puzzle No 17,650
ANTAGONIST WS
OEVGN ANTHA
HOGSHEAD KI C
DTR OLEASTER
LHC O YLE
PEKE HAROOOIO
OHTEARS OEN
ONHEARD SAAOLE
RBA G S D E R
BLUEPENCIL ARTS
OS A E D A
INFORMAL R N Y
RRELOTTERE
ELAPSE O B S E R
SU O P R E I A M T

WEATHER

Chilly easterly winds will keep down temperatures and bring sunny spells to most of Scotland and north and east England. Further south will be more cloudy and wet, although it will probably become brighter over much of the south-east and the Midlands. South-western England and Wales may have heavy rain at times, and some rain is quite likely to reach Northern Ireland. Outlook: Cloud and rain clearing from the south-west; staying cold with the chance of frost.

Around Britain	Sun	Rain	Max	Min	Wind
London	12.0	0.2	55	37	13-15 cloudy
Edinburgh	12.2	0.1	53	35	12-14 cloudy
Belfast	12.4	0.1	51	33	12-14 cloudy
Cardiff	12.6	0.1	49	31	12-14 cloudy
Manchester	12.8	0.1	47	29	12-14 cloudy
Sheffield	13.0	0.1	45	27	12-14 cloudy
Nottingham	13.2	0.1	43	25	12-14 cloudy
Birmingham	13.4	0.1	41	23	12-14 cloudy
Bristol	13.6	0.1	39	21	12-14 cloudy
London	13.8	0.1	37	19	12-14 cloudy

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

CHERUBIMICAL

a. Like an angel
b. Drunk
c. A flaming red
SANE MAGOGNA
a. A son-of-a-gun
b. Sardianian bacon spaghetti
c. A sweet-smelling shrub

INSULATE

To send to Coventry
a. Pertaining to an eye
b. To expose to the sun

INFACANINOPIHLE

a. The back lower teeth
b. A lover of Jack Russell
c. Supporter of the weak

Answers on page 22, column 1

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: D M Dunlop, Fitzwill Cottages, Docking, Norfolk; A Slat, 48 Liverpool Ave, Doncaster; S Yorks; R Waymark, 23 Anderson Lane, Southgate, Pennard, Swansea; J A Prentice, 14 Arden Street, Edinburgh; J Landei, Downing College, Cambridge.

AM PM

HIGHEST & LOWEST	LONDON
Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 3 pm, 12C (54F); min 6 pm to 9 am, 6C (43F). Humidity: 63% (45F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, 0.44in; 1015.5 millibars, rise to 5.17 am, 1,000 millibars-29.53k.	Thursday: Highest day temp: Jersey, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: London, 10C (50F). Humidity: 63% (45F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, 0.44in; 1015.5 millibars, rise to 5.17 am, 1,000 millibars-29.53k.

NOON TODAY

Temp	Wind
London 5.2 pm to 5.14 am	3-5 cloudy
Birmingham 5.3 pm to 5.24 am	2-4 cloudy
Edinburgh 5.8 pm to 5.73 am	2-4 cloudy
Manchester 5.2 pm to 5.12 am	2-4 cloudy
Penzance 5.5 pm to 5.41 am	2-4 cloudy

THE POUND

Bank Buys	Bank Sells	Italy Lire	Japan Yen
2.575	2.445	2420	2010
2.2	2.30	2455	2025
12.8	11.85	12.07	11.47
7.94	7.44	265	255
11.10	10.35	4.5	4.5
3.27	3.11	11.50	11.50
261	241	2.70	2.70
16.39	14.45	1.85	1.85
1.258	1.198	3.70	3.70

Financial advertisements including 'STOCK', 'Pres fades rate', 'GOLD', 'CURRENCY', and 'INTEREST RATE'.

SATURDAY APRIL 23 1988

Executive Editor David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1411.6 (-11.8)

FT-SE 100 1771.6 (-20.3)

Bargains 29201 (24308)

USM (Datastream) 149.06 (+0.06)

THE POUND

US dollar 1.8900 (-0.0090)

W German mark 3.1620 (+0.0030)

Trade-weighted 78.7 (-0.1)

Pressure fades for rate cut

The pound slipped back against a stronger dollar yesterday, but continued to gain ground against the mark.

The pound rose by a penny to DM3.1610, but slipped by nearly a cent to \$1.89.

The dollar rose by a penny to DM1.6730 and from Y124 to Y124.75 against the yen.

200% jump Grand Central Investment Holdings, the international food manufacturing and distribution group, raised pretax profits by 200 per cent last year to £1.4 million.

Bonar stake Tomkins has been flushed out as a 2 per cent shareholder in Low & Bonar, the Scottish plastics and packaging group whose shares have risen sharply on takeover speculation.

Guinness inquiry examines suspected insider dealing The Department of Trade and Industry inquiry into Guinness, the drinks and leisure company, is believed to be examining purchases of shares in Arthur Bell & Sons, by Jersey and Swiss nominees companies, before the public announcement that Guinness was going to bid for the Scotch whisky group.

Slough's Eurobond issue Slough Estates, the property group concentrating on industrial assets, is raising £150 million through a Euro-convertible bond issue to finance a current development programme conservatively estimated at £550 million.

Queue grows at Japanese SE Financial negotiators have again called for more British firms to be given seats on the Tokyo stock exchange, but Japan is unable to offer any immediate prospect of entry.

SE moves after TV claims Japanese prime minister's visit he said: "I can't make a judgement."

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Suter deals in James Neill stock examined Officials of the Stock Exchange have investigated dealings by Suter, Mr David Abell's last-growing industrial holding company, in the shares of James Neill Holdings, the Sheffield garden and hand tool maker.

Spending shows steady rise Consumer spending continued to grow at a robust pace in the first three months of this year, according to official figures. Growth could be moderating, although the Budget tax cuts and lower mortgage rates are likely to provide a further boost.

Record home loans fuel inflation fear Mortgage lending broke records last month as the spring boom in house buying started, but with a continuing strong inflow of retail deposits, building societies were well able to meet the demand.

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Record home loans fuel inflation fear

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Mortgage lending broke records last month as the spring boom in house buying started, but with a continuing strong inflow of retail deposits, building societies were well able to meet the demand.

According to figures published yesterday by the Building Societies Association, loans exceeded £4 billion for the first time in a single month. Net new commitments - loans promised but not yet implemented - hit almost £6 billion, more than 40 per cent higher than the previous record last July.

The high level of mortgage lending, after Thursday's massive bank lending figure, is no comfort to the Government in its battle to hold down inflation. But the scramble for home loans is set to continue at the same rate in the near future, the BSA said.

Mr Mark Boleat, the director general of the BSA, said: "Lending is likely to stay at this level for the next two or three months."

Borrowing is being en-

couraged by the latest round of cuts in home loan rates to about 9.5 per cent, which will be introduced on May 1 by most societies. Home buyers will also have more money to spend after the cut in personal tax rates in the Budget.

In addition, demand for homes is receiving extra stimulus from the rush to beat the August deadline after which unmarried couples buying a house together will cease to qualify for two sets of mortgage interest tax relief.

Building societies have no shortage of funds to lend because of a massive inflow of retail deposits since the stock market crash. They received a net £1,059 million in March, the fourth month out of the past five when deposit inflows have topped £1 billion.

Over the past six months the average inflow has been more than £1 billion a month, setting a record. The previous best six-monthly period was September 1983 to February 1984 when inflows averaged £900 million a month.

The surge in deposits reflects the public's distrust of

the stock market and the "flight to safety" by many investors. The biggest inflows came last November when investors began switching out of shares and into safe deposit accounts. The societies estimate that most of the present inflow is new money which might have been invested in the stock market but is now being diverted to less risky investments.

Unit trusts have been particularly hard hit, with net inflows sinking to less than £60 million last month.

The societies borrowed more on the wholesale money markets in March - a net £352 million, more than double that in February and higher than in the previous two months.

The BSA's figures show that the average house price is now just under £50,000, with the rate of increase accelerating. In February it was running at about 22.7 per cent.

Lloyds Bank has cut its mortgage rate to 9.7 per cent while Sumitomo Bank, the Japanese banking group, cut its rate to 8.9 per cent.

SE moves after TV claims



Records dug out by Stock Exchange officials: James Neill's chief executive, Peter Bullock

Suter deals in James Neill stock examined

By Joe Joseph

Officials of the Stock Exchange have investigated dealings by Suter, Mr David Abell's last-growing industrial holding company, in the shares of James Neill Holdings, the Sheffield garden and hand tool maker.

The information they collected is believed to have been passed on to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Two members of the exchange's surveillance department visited Neill's offices shortly after Christmas and spent two days looking through the company's share register, specifically at dealings and share transfer documents relating to the periods in 1983 and 1984 when Suter took a stake in James Neill.

Mr Peter Bullock, Neill's chief executive, confirmed last night: "We have been visited by investigators from the Stock Exchange looking at Suter's dealings in our shares and we understand that the information they gathered has been passed on to the Department of Trade and Industry."

The investigations immediately followed allegations on a television programme of insider trading by Mr Abell in the shares of various companies. They are believed to have focused on the timing of dealings in Neill's shares by several nominee accounts in relation to purchases subsequently made by Suter.

In August 1984, Suter disclosed that it had boosted its stake in Neill from 5 per cent to 10.74 per cent.

Mr Abell has denied charges levelled in the Channel 4 television programme, called *The Insiders*. The broadcast dealt with alleged insider dealing and alleged "concert parties".

Mr Abell has issued a libel writ against the programme makers.

SE moves after TV claims

French clear Les Echos purchase

By Colin Campbell

The French government will not stand in the way of Pearson's £88 million plan to buy Les Echos, the French financial daily, after having earlier moved to block the deal on fears that control of Les Echos might move out of non-European Economic Community hands.

M Edouard Balladur, the French Finance Minister, has now accepted Pearson's contention that even though The News Corporation has a 20.5 per cent stake in Pearson, more than 70 per cent of Pearson equity was still owned by EEC citizens, and that Pearson was therefore an EEC company.

Pearson, the publishing, banking and information group which owns the *Financial Times*, and Mme Jacqueline Beytout, the owner of Les Echos, last week agreed a modified contract under which Pearson will initially acquire only two-thirds of the equity of Les Echos, taking up the balance a year later.

Part of the payment for Les Echos comprises 7.375 million Pearson shares, and under the terms of the revised bid the right of first refusal for these shares is granted to Lazard Frères et Cie, thus ensuring a continued French connection.

A Pearson spokesman said yesterday that completion of the deal was expected to take place shortly.

M&S will cut price for US deal by \$20m

By Alexandra Jackson

Marks and Spencer has renegotiated the price it will pay Campeau Corporation, the Canadian property group, for Brooks Brothers, the US retail chain, from \$770 million to \$750 million (£397 million).

The transaction is expected to be completed next Wednesday.

The saving was achieved by changing the funding arrangement for the part of the purchase covered by the issue of a Marks and Spencer 10-year promissory note.

The interest terms of the note have been adjusted from a fixed rate of 8 1/2 per cent to a floating rate at London Inter-Bank Offered Rate.

Mr Keith Oates, Marks and Spencer's finance director, said: "When both sides took a closer look at the financing of the deal, it became apparent that Campeau preferred a floating interest rate. We are not worried about having a floating rate at Libor."

US investors win Crescent vote

By Martin Waller

The bid by a concert party of American investors to utilize the Crescent Japan Investment Trust cleared the first hurdle yesterday at the extraordinary meeting they requisitioned in Edinburgh.

The voting showed the proposals by Grace-Pinto and Associates, a New York group of investors centred on the Grace family, had the clear backing of the biggest investors but not of individuals and smaller institutions.

A move to keep the company as an investment trust lost by 32.45 million votes to 16.61 million. A second resolution, to proceed with unitization within 60 days, had the approval of 35.18 million votes, with 18.39 million against.

None of the large institutions was at yesterday's meeting, but it is believed that the three biggest shareholders, Barclays de Zoete Wedd (with 12.5 per cent), Sun Life (6.7 per cent) and Sun Alliance (5.4 per cent), all backed the American proposals.

It is thought that the Commercial Union, General Accident and the Co-operative Insurance Society, all of whom have just under 5 per cent, stayed with the board.

The Americans are sitting on a stake of 21 per cent. Mr Alan McIntroy, the Crescent Japan chairman, said 97 per cent of the votes for unitization had come from six out of the top 10 biggest shareholders.

The result, however, had both sides claiming victory. Mr McIntroy said it was a clear message that Crescent Japan should continue as an investment trust.

But the other side, represented at the meeting by Mr Oliver Grace Junior and Mr James Pinto, said Mr McIntroy's comments were irrelevant and confused and in no way altered the fact that shareholders had voted clearly for unitization.

Spending shows steady rise

Consumer spending continued to grow at a robust pace in the first three months of this year, according to official figures. Growth could be moderating, although the Budget tax cuts and lower mortgage rates are likely to provide a further boost.

First quarter consumer spending totalled £44.1 billion (in 1980 prices), preliminary estimates from the Central

Statistical Office showed, 0.6 per cent up on the fourth quarter of last year. This compares with rises of 0.9 per cent in the fourth quarter and 2.6 per cent in the third quarter of last year.

However, there was a rise of 6.2 per cent in the first quarter against a year earlier. And it is uncertain whether the apparent easing of consumer spend-

ing growth will have been accompanied by an increase in the personal saving ratio, which fell to a 30-year low in the second half of last year.

The figures for the first quarter of this year showed continued strong growth in retail sales, tempered by a decline in spending on gas and electricity because of the mild winter weather.

Guinness inquiry examines suspected insider dealing

By Lawrence Lever

The Department of Trade and Industry inquiry into Guinness, the drinks and leisure company, is believed to be examining purchases of shares in Arthur Bell & Sons, by Jersey and Swiss nominee companies, before the public announcement that Guinness was going to bid for the Scotch whisky group.

The DTI is examining evidence of suspected insider dealing in Bell shares by several individuals, some of whom are believed to be prominent names, who used the Jersey and Swiss nominees to buy their shares. The DTI inquiries could lead to criminal charges.

Bell shares rose from 160p to 192p in the three days before the bid announcement on June 14, 1985. This prompted complaints by Guinness, which called for an inquiry.

The Stock Exchange did investigate, but its inquiries apparently floundered when Guinness, presented with evidence of suspected insider dealing, claimed that there was nothing in it.

According to sources close to the DTI, the results of the Stock Exchange investigation were resurrected after inspectors were appointed into Guinness in December, 1986. The Exchange's evidence is believed to have been passed on to the DTI and the Fraud Squad team investigating Guinness.

Inquiries into Bell share dealings have led to Jersey companies which, when probed for their ultimate ownership, have in some cases revealed that they are controlled from Switzerland. The Fraud Squad is known to be making inquiries in both Jersey and Switzerland.

Queue grows at Japanese SE

By David Watts in Tokyo and David Smith

Financial negotiators have again called for more British firms to be given seats on the Tokyo stock exchange, but Japan is unable to offer any immediate prospect of entry.

The TSE issue may cast a shadow over the visit to London of Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Prime Minister of Japan, early next month, although yesterday officials at the Treasury, the Bank of England and the Department of Trade and Industry played down the dispute.

There is little prospect that Britain's outstanding applications for seats on the TSE will affect the impending entry into the gilt-edged market of Nomura and Daiwa, the Japanese securities houses. Both firms have completed technical discussions with the Bank in recent weeks, and are due to start market-making operations over the next two months.

The Bank could be called on to delay the go-ahead for the two Japanese firms, but yesterday this appeared to be highly unlikely. Discussions between the Bank, Nomura and Daiwa have been proceeding since last autumn.

Treasury officials said yesterday that the question of whether the two firms

SE moves after TV claims

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SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Table with columns for Stock Market (New York, Dow Jones, Tokyo, Nikkei, Hang Kong, etc.) and Bond Markets (General, Paris CAG, Zurich, etc.).

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Table with columns for RISES (Assoc Energy, Brammer, Warrington, etc.) and FALLS (Corns Gold, Boosy & Hawkes, etc.).

INTEREST RATES

Table with columns for London Bank Base, 3-month interbank, 3-month eligible bills, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table with columns for London, New York, DM, Sfr, FF, Yen, etc.

GOLD

Table with columns for London Fixing, AM, Close, etc.

NORTH SEA OIL

Table with columns for Brent, Donyon, etc.

Bus Roadmap 26 Money Markets 28 Stock Market 26 Foreign Exchange 28 Wall Street 26 UK Finance 28 Trade Cycles 26 Commodities 28 Kenneth Fleet 27 USM Prices 28 Times 27 Share Prices 29

Advertisement for Sunday Telegraph Unit Trust Group of the Year, featuring Prolific Financial Management and contact information for Unit Trust Managers Limited.

WPP pays \$20.25m for marketing firm

WPP Group, the advertising and promotions company, has further expanded its United States services division with the purchase, for a maximum of \$20.25 million (£10.66 million), of Einson Freeman, a New Jersey marketing company. An initial payment of \$6.25 million has been made, \$5 million in cash and the rest in new WPP shares. The balance is due over the three years to 1993, dependent on future profits, and is also payable in cash and shares, up to \$14 million.

Ewart seeks suspension

Ewart, the Belfast property company formerly called Ewart New Northern, yesterday requested a suspension of trading on the Stock Exchange, pending a re-organization. The company statement also said contracts had been exchanged "in connection with a major acquisition". Shares are likely to remain suspended for three or four weeks until shareholders vote on the deal at an extraordinary meeting.

Irish food firm expands

Wardell Roberts, the Dublin food distributor which is quoted on the USM, is buying the goodwill, trade and name of Woodford Bourne & Co, a wine wholesaler based in Cork in the Irish Republic. The company said Woodford would trade as a separate sales and marketing company, with all other services being integrated into the main group, but would give no further details.

P&P in flotation plan

P&P, the computer distribution company chaired by Professor Roland Smith, is coming to the stock market via a £14.99 million placing by J Henry Schroder Wagg & Co, the merchant bank. There are 8.56 million shares being placed at 175p, representing 30.1 per cent of the enlarged share capital. New shares make up 7.2 million of the share issue. The company is raising £11.9 million to pay debts and take advantage of opportunities for further expansion.

Agricultural firm's debut

A new agricultural company, Plant Breeding International Cambridge, was officially launched in London yesterday. The company is the result of the privatization of the National Seed Development Organization, and parts of the Plant Breeding Institute - formerly government-funded research organizations.

Lloyds for Luxemburg

Lloyds Bank has announced plans to open a private banking operation in Luxembourg this year. The branch is designed to attract wealthy EEC customers, and will offer private banking and investment management services. It is the second British bank, after the TSB Group, to open a branch in Luxembourg.

Propeller lifts off

Propeller, the leisure wear company traded on the Third Market, has reported pretax profits of £418,000 in the year to end-January, up 33 per cent from £314,000 in the previous 12 months. The past financial year included the group's market debut, when it was spun off from Corton Beach, which still holds 56 per cent.

Inco jumps to \$124m

Inco, the North American nickel group, achieved first-quarter profits of \$124.3 million (£65.6 million), compared with \$72.6 million in the last quarter of 1987, and a first quarterly 1987 loss of \$8 million. The level of London Metal Exchange nickel prices reflects strong demand competing for limited supply, Inco says.

Maple Leaf sales down

The Royal Canadian Mint says official sales of the Gold Maple Leaf coin totalled 1,425 million ounces last year, compared with 1,571 million ounces sold in 1986. The coin held its position as market leader, with 45 per cent of the world market in investment gold coins, estimated at 3.2 million ounces.

Options and Futures for the Private Investor

A fear of losing unlimited amounts of money and general lack of understanding has led the private investor to avoid the futures and options markets. In reality, buying options guarantees you limited liability. Options and futures belong to any actively managed investment portfolio, so why not find out more about them?

Form for requesting a free guide to options and futures. Includes fields for Name, Address, Telephone No., and Postcode.

Rights issue fears depress shares

Fears that someone may be lining up another big rights issue saw investors scuttling for cover yesterday and the equity market ended the two-week account on a flat note. News of a surprise, £150 million Eurobond issue from Slesoph Estates, the property developer, revived fears in the market-place that a queue of companies hungry for cash may be forming. The shares closed 1p lower at 281p.

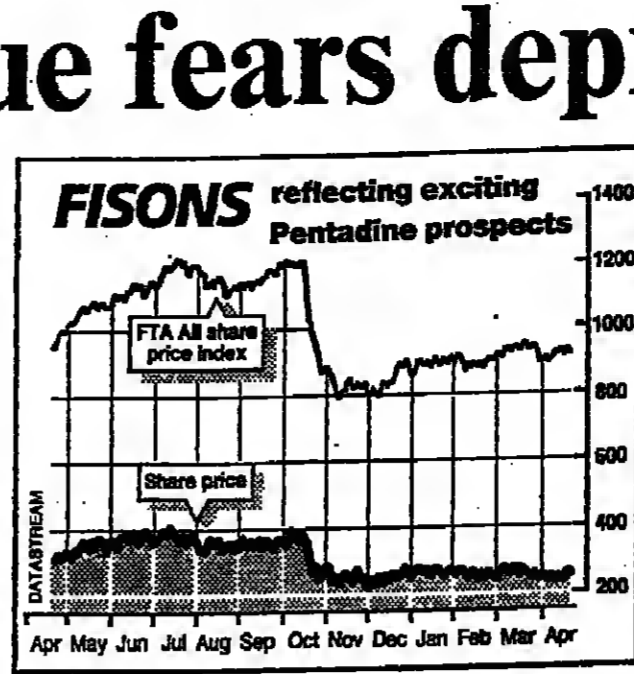
Only last account, Barclays Bank shook the market by asking shareholders for an extra £928 million with a deeply discounted rights issue. This had followed hard on the heels of an £180 million issue from Lucas Industries which left institutions with a severe bout of indigestion.

Heading the list of possible contenders is Standard Chartered, the international banking group, which confirmed, along with the full-year figures a few weeks ago, that it would be turning to the market for more money at some stage to ease its bad debt problem. ICI's name was also being freely bandied about as being in need of extra funds, although this was quickly discounted in most quarters.

Brokers claim that any rights issue is likely to fall foul of the institutions in the market's current nervous state - unless it is heavily discounted, as in the case of Barclays, or financed by an issue of convertible shares.

Prices generally opened just a few pence easier following a lacklustre performance overnight on Wall Street and continued to drift throughout the day. Dealers said that there were a few profits to be taken but selling pressure was described as light.

STOCK MARKET



The shares were given a shot in the arm this week by a buy circular from Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker. Now Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, another broker, has joined the growing band of admirers.

Mr Paul Woodhouse and his team of analysts at Scrimgeour are excited by the prospects for Pentadine, which is used for treating AIDS-related pneumonia. They are also looking for substantial growth during the next couple of years from Intal, the group's anti-asthmatic drug.

Investors are hoping for good news next week from a seminar to be hosted by Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers. Dr Ed Barnard of the Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute of New York, who has been involved in the clinical trials on Pentadine, may address an audience at the seminar before attending a similar function in Paris. He is said to be a fan of Pentadine.

End-of-account profit-taking took its toll of a number of recent speculative favourites.

Shares of Sir Terence Conran's Storehouse, the British Home Stores and Habitat-Moercher retailing group, which were this week catapulted back into the takeover spotlight by stories of a dawn raid, or full bid, from a consortium said to include Mr Robert Maxwell, the newspaper publisher and Dr Ashraf Marwan, the Egyptian financier, also gave ground in the absence of bid developments.

The shares, which touched 300p in frantic dealings late on Wednesday, met with modest profit-taking and closed 4p lower at 283p, after 280p, as almost 4 million shares changed hands.

Hong Kong Wharf, the cash-rich, Far Eastern property group, headed by Sir YK Pao, yesterday refused to comment on market suggestions that it was ready to bid for Storehouse.

Seas, the Selfridges, Freemans and Saxeone group, declined by 3p to 131p in thin trading.

Dealers still believe that the Al-Fayed, the owners of Harrods and of a 10 per cent stake in Sears, are anxious to get their hands on Selfridges and will soon launch a bid for the group.

Underwoods, the troubled, London-based retail chemist chain, which this month produced a gloomy statement about last year's trading and a sweeping change of management, could soon be put out of its misery.

Although the shares of Underwoods slipped by 5p to 138p on end-of-account selling, the word is that Next, the high street retailer chaired by Mr George Davies, is considering making a bid for the company.

Mr Davies, a former non-executive director of Underwoods, is keen to keep Next's aggressive acquisitive policy moving and give the new management team at Underwoods an early baptism of fire.

At yesterday's close of 138p, Underwoods is capitalised at just £37.5 million, compared with the £49 million it was worth when it came to the market in November 1985.

Mr Davies could easily afford to place Underwoods under his umbrella, despite having already spent £21 million this month on buying Alfred Preeley, the Midlands newspaper and tobacconist.

Shares of Next closed 1p lower at 268p, after 265p.

Sun Life, the sole remaining, quoted pure life assurance company, also met a few sellers to close 25p down at £10.95.

The shares had touched £11.60 this week in a restricted market on whispers that Liberty Life of South Africa's offshoot, Transatlantic Holdings, which already holds a 25 per cent stake in the company, was about to bid for the rest.

George Wimpey, the housebuilding, construction and property group, advanced by a further 10p to 268p as more than 3 million shares were traded.

Speculation intensified that the Grove Charity Management has sold its 35 per cent stake in the company.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

Govan may be extended

But Mr Per Björn, the information director, said yesterday that the Govan dock may be widened to build the liquefied gas tankers of 100,000 cubic metres for which the Norwegian firm anticipates rapidly growing demand.

Such tankers are at present built only by Japanese yards. Kvaerner is understood to have considered buying into Japan as an alternative to Govan.

Mr Björn underlined that extending Govan was still only a "possibility" and would depend on Kvaerner's success in operating a new base for its gas transport technology.

Kvaerner was, meanwhile, very confident, he said, that Govan would continue to qualify for the maximum 28 per cent shipbuilding subsidy allowed by the EEC.

Coats plans £13m refit of carpet plant

Coats Vytella, the textile group, is to spend £13.5 million on re-equipping and expanding its tufted carpet plant at Donaghadee, County Down. Employment at the factory will be increased from the present 430 to 550 over the next three years.

Mr Sander Ferris, the managing director of Coats Vytella's carpets division, said the factory's present machinery, which is slow and inefficient by modern standards, will be replaced with "state of the art" equipment, making it one of the most modern carpet plants in Europe.

The factory currently produces 15 million square metres of carpet a year.

DTI backing for electronics study

The Government has decided to continue backing research by British companies into a new material for electronics, despite Plessey's controversial decision not to link up with GEC in establishing a national foundry to make devices out of the material.

The move ends industry fears that the Government would no longer support it in developing the technology, which is based on gallium arsenide, a replacement for the traditional silicon.

The Department of Trade and Industry said it had accepted industry advice that something had to be salvaged from the break-up of the Plessey-GEC collaboration.

Plessey said it had decided to withdraw because it could see little benefit in joining forces with GEC, whose capabilities it regarded as considerably behind its own. The company said it had a substantial GaAs facility.

The DTI said it had abandoned hope of setting up a national GaAs foundry and would instead fund collaborative research to try to minimize duplication by electronics firms. But it emphasized that the funding would be less than the £25 million earmarked before the collapse of the Plessey-GEC venture.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table of London Traded Options with columns for Symbol, Call, Put, and various price points.

NEW YORK

Dow quickly ahead

(Reuters) - Shares held their opening gains to early trading yesterday on another burst of futures-related buying. Program buying and selling made the market swing erratically on Thursday. Buying yesterday followed a rise in bonds on a report of unchanged durable goods orders when a rise had been expected.

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices for various companies like ASA, ASA, ASA, etc.

TOKYO

Market in doldrums

(Reuters) - Share prices closed easier after an overnight drop on Wall Street and due to the absence of fresh positive factors. Some profit-taking was seen after Wednesday's gains.

A static dollar and directionless Wall Street have done little to spark active buying, brokers said.

The Nikkei index lost 35.93 points, or 0.13 per cent, to 26,828.16. It climbed 207.09 points on Wednesday. Declines led advances five to four in turnover of 650 million shares against one billion.

The index fluctuated in a 70-point range all day with no sectors gaining or falling sharply. Foreigners and domestic institutions kept low profiles.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table of Traditional Options with columns for Last Dealings, Last Dealings, and For Settlement.

RECENT ISSUES

Table of Recent Issues with columns for Company Name, Price, and Issue Size.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table of Alpha Stocks with columns for Vol 1000, Vol 100, and Vol 1000.

كازمان الاجملي

Deadlock continues as Framlington fails to find white knight

By John Bell, City Editor

Framlington, the unit trust management group which is furiously fighting a £67 million takeover bid from Throgmorton Trust, has so far failed to find a white knight.

Mr Bill Stuttaford, Framlington's chairman, said yesterday that the search continued. But he held out no firm hope to shareholders of an early announcement. "I will be writing to you again to report further progress," he tells them in a letter being posted this weekend.

Mr Stuttaford's disclosure was being taken in the City as a sign that the search for a swift solution to the deadlock which has split Framlington's

board may not now be easy. The group's agonies began when Throgmorton Trust, which is managed by a minority within Framlington's own board through a group subsidiary called Throgmorton Investment Management Services, launched its bid. This extraordinary bid, led by Mr Bob Seabrook, Framlington's deputy chairman, followed a series of internal disagreements over policy.

Mr Stuttaford wrote to shareholders a month ago, revealing that the beleaguered unit trust group had commissioned Phoenix Securities to identify a suitable partner with the aim of resolving the

disagreements within the management without causing undue loss of confidence among customers.

A number of possible white knights were being mentioned, with Hambro tipped as the favourite. Both Phoenix and Framlington's merchant banking adviser, Morgan Grenfell, say shareholders should sit tight.

Key to a solution of Framlington's troubles is the 28.8 per cent stake held by the French group, Credit Commercial de France.

Yesterday, Throgmorton Trust revealed that it had lifted its holding to 11 per cent.

Buyout at Hill Samuel insurer

By Cliff Feltham

Lowndes Lambert, the Lloyd's insurance broking arm of the Hill Samuel group, is being bought by its management in a deal thought to be worth about £15 million.

Fifty five members of the management have put up more than £1 million towards the buyout which is being supported by a group of institutional investors.

These are led by Candover Investments, Also Pacific Associates, ECI Ventures, the Candover 87 Fund and Mars Security.

Bank finance is coming from the National Westminster Bank.

Hill Samuel, which has declined to put a figure on the deal, says the sale will end its involvement in international corporate insurance broking. However, the group is holding on to Hill House Hammond, the motor and household insurance subsidiary of Lowndes Lambert.

The idea of a management buyout of the business was first raised when it looked as if the Union Bank of Switzerland would bid for Hill Samuel.

Under Swiss rules it would not have been permitted to retain ownership of the company.

But this deal floundered and when Hill Samuel was subsequently taken over by the Trustee Savings Bank it was decided to proceed with the disposal.

Lowndes Lambert made a small profit last year as it suffered along with other insurance brokers from the strong dollar and a softening in premium income. But it is expected to bounce back strongly this year and is likely to match the £2.6 million made in 1986.

The company has offices in a number of countries and, in addition to handling general insurance business ranging from marine to aviation, has a fast expanding operation called APLA offering professional indemnity for architects.

Mr Richard Shaw, the chairman, said: "We have built up Lowndes Lambert successfully as part of the Hill Samuel group and we welcome the opportunity to develop further the company as an independent business.

"The degree of management investment is the best evidence of our confidence both in the prospects for the company.

Racal sets pace in Europe's race towards single market



Sir Ernest Harrison is an enthusiast — for Racal, racing and the rationale of a single European market. At Racal he is on course for a rare double — a second growth stock within the span of a few years. In Europe he is a pacesetter, while in the market Racal shares (243p with a speculative following) are, I suggest, again a core investment.

Alerting investors to the merits of a share is much easier than stirring the interest of British companies in the European Commission's resolve "to achieve a single large market by 1992, thereby creating a more favourable environment for stimulating enterprise, competition and trade."

Our insularity is not quite as marked as in 1957 when the Treaty of Rome, if it were thought of at all, was scornfully dismissed as a fantasy of the absurd European imagination. The Government at least is not making the same mistake as its predecessors did then. Sir John Harvey-Jones fixes us from page and screen with Kitchener intensity and it may not be too long before it dawns on companies operating only in the domestic market that their businesses too will be exposed to new competition.

The integrated market will be created by eliminating barriers that still divide Europe: physical (for example frontiers), technical (different standards) and fiscal (different indirect taxes). Some of the costs of division are an indication of potential benefits. Frontier formalities are estimated to cost £8.3 billion, different technical standards for products a staggering £30 billion. Favouring home producers in awarding government contracts is also said to cost European taxpayers £30 billion. The 12 members of the

Community together spend about the same amount on research and development as Japan but because it is fragmented it is less effective.

Of course not everything will happen in the firm or at the time foreseen by proponents of the unified market — but plenty will and it is not too soon to identify areas of greatest impact and to speculate about the implications of deregulation. The year 1992 is the deadline, not the starting date — a mistake made here but not across the Channel.

Smith New Court (in which I have to declare a modest interest) has put together an analysis of some significant aspects of deregulation, including a handy Continental takeover directory. Cross-border takeovers are becoming a feature of the London market and are bound to increase, with British companies increasingly frequent targets. France and Belgium, while not as open to foreign bids as Britain, are relatively so. In contrast West Germany, The Netherlands and Switzerland are heavily protective but at the same time expansive and likely to be active in the takeover game. Spao is a magnet for investment because of its high growth rate and the need to make up ground.

The impact of deregulation on industry obviously will vary. SNC sees the biggest impact in telecommunica-

tions, information technology, financial services and transport. In telecommunications, specific measures have been agreed to integrate national systems handling voice, text, facsimile and data transmission by 1993, and a move made toward a digital cellular radio standard within the European Economic Community from 1991 onward. Which brings me back to Sir Ernest Harrison and Racal.

Analysts are again looking with favour on a stock that had shone as brightly as any star before falling out of the electrical sky. The Third World market for mobile military communications equipment had shrunk and Racal's incursions into corporate America, now under control, were proving beyond its capacity to manage. The purchase of Decca from under GEC's nose was inspired but all defence work has become increasingly competitive and much less profitable.

Racal's achievement is to change the thrust of the business from a narrow specialised market where growth is restricted, to consumer markets where it is virtually limitless. The temptation to back into the problems of the electronics industry by merger or acquisition is being resisted. Cellular radio (Vodafone) and security (Chubb) are what Racal is now about.

With BT, Racal shares the British market for mobile telephones and is one of two British companies licensed to operate the pan-European digital cellular radio network. More than half Racal's profits come from Vodafone and security, and given the new European dimension, which will also help security, this proportion, and thus the quality of Racal's earnings, will rise.

With two runners like this in the stable, who needs racehorses?

Name change signals transition to minerals

Losses at Cluff grow to £2.1m

Cluff Oil, the USM-quoted mining and minerals exploration company, made a pretax loss in the year to end-December of £2.1 million against a previous loss of £518,000.

The loss contained a £1 million exceptional charge due to a write-off by an associate company in Australia. Turnover rose to £2.4 million from £2.2 million.

Mr Algy Cluff, the chairman, emphasized that 1987 was a turning point in Cluff's transition from an oil exploration to a minerals production company. It is changing its name, subject to shareholder approval, to Cluff Resources.

Production started this year at two gold mines in Zimbabwe and one in Spain and should rise to 80,000 ounces a year by the end of 1988, placing Cluff in the middle rank of international gold producers.

Discoveries in Zimbabwe have defined an additional 140,000 ounces of gold in open-pit reserves. Gold reserves in Zimbabwe now stand at 720,000 ounces, up 57 per cent on those stated in last year's annual report.

The company's strategy for the next two years is to accelerate its involvement in mineral exploration and development in Africa, Central America and North America. See *Tempus* below



Planning ahead: Algy Cluff (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

Government's economic Catch 22

The Government is in a Catch 22 situation. The frailty of the US dollar and the courting of the pound are pushing sterling to dizzy heights. Exporters complain and the current balance of payments may, in time, suffer. But to intervene, either by selling sterling in the foreign exchange market or, more dramatically, by cutting interest rates, may lead to more spending, more credit, more imports and more inflation.

This dilemma should not be seen in a tragic light at this stage. The aim of trying to balance the risks is not a bad one, especially when the reserves and the Government's international status are high and our most useful contribution to stopping the spread of an international financial malaise is simply to keep our own noses clean.

The equity market remains on tenterhooks, and nothing is visible that would restore confidence enough to seed prices firmly higher. On the other hand, no man's land is better than falling over the brink. Intellectually, it is easier to be a bear than a bull.

But let us not look gift horses in the mouth. If prices before the October crash had reached levels which were

Government's economic Catch 22

not justified by fundamentals such as company earnings and dividends, the same cannot be said of today's prices. Earnings this year are expected to grow by around 13 per cent, and in 1989 by about 11 per cent (James Capel's estimates). If they are right, industrial equities are now on a prospective price-earnings of 11, falling next year to 10. These are not bad defensive positions.

With all the usual caveats ringing in our ears, let us then test the water. I have already referred to Racal. In the same category of imaginative strategic management I would put P&O (586p). Sir Jeffrey Sterling and Bruce MacPhail have revealed one of the hidden strengths of British industry, namely its high level of efficiency. Strength because when good management is applied to it, progress is astonishing. And there is still a long way to go, even in companies whose performance has already turned sceptics into acolytes. P&O has a problem with ferries; it also has zeal, determination and construction and property divisions.

A coherent and evolving strategy is also evident at Truvesthouse Forte (234p), where Rocco Forte is rapidly filling the mantle handed to him by his

Government's economic Catch 22

father. When looking at THF, it is easy to be deflected by sideways, although the continuing struggle with the Savoy is hardly a sideshow. The strength and balance the group has already achieved in hotels and catering make the shares a core holding.

A company still suffering from its past is British Airways (164p) whose figures are due next month. The Lord King-Sir Colin Marshall-Gordon Dunlop trio has done an excellent job. Acquiring British Caledonian and, more particularly, the code-sharing agreement with United Airlines, were shrewd initiatives. A rerating of BA is overdue.

Earlier in the year I extolled the virtues of independent oil companies, one of which, Enterprise (now 370p), has become the star of the British exploration and production sector. The shares have had an excellent rise and the market in them is relatively restricted, but Enterprise will be around for a long time (unless it is taken over). I believe in backing good management — a quality Enterprise has demonstrated in its relationship with ICI as well as in its success in the North Sea, culminating in the Nelson field.

Cluff goes for gold far away from oil's troubled waters

Cluff Oil's swift transformation from an oil exploration company into a minerals production company has not yet been fully appreciated by the market.

Cluff still has one last oil exploration well to drill in Indonesia this summer, but after that its oil interests will be confined to production in France, the North Sea, America and offshore Oman. A high 95 per cent of the company's cashflow will come from minerals.

The main thrust of the new strategy is in Zimbabwe, where production from two open-pit gold mines — Freda and Rebecca — started this year. Cluff, the chairman, clearly has no reservations about political or other uncertainties in Zimbabwe.

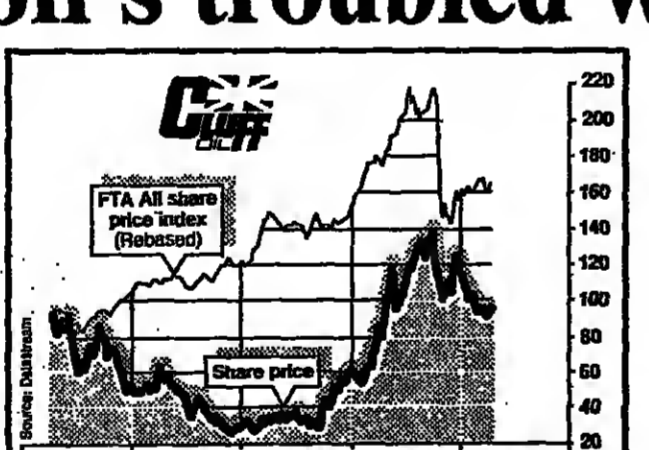
As the first overseas investor to go back into that country after its independence, Cluff has had a good relationship with the relevant government departments. The country's infrastructure is good, the gold mines are not in dangerous areas and the company has no fears of nationalization.

Cluff has been remitting dividends from Zimbabwe for the past three years, and sees no reason why it should not continue to do so. Mr Cluff is so bullish about Zimbabwe's prospects that he expects the country to become the "West Germany of Africa".

Cluff is not, however, putting all its eggs into one basket. Its Transacq gold mine in Spain is increasing production and by the end of this year the company expects to have a total of four mines producing an annual 80,000 ounces of gold.

With an average operating cost to the Zimbabwe mines of \$220 per ounce, against a current gold price around \$448, there is clearly a more comfortable risk margin than in oil exploration.

The company intends to branch into industrial minerals in Europe and North America. Last year's £5 million rights issue has provided sufficient finance to start production rolling, and the



ordinary shares has largely been whittled away — as a result of the strong share price performance since October — there is now a case, for those without undue capital gains problems, for changing horses from the ordinary into the bonds.

The 6 per cent Euro-convertible bond issue raises £150 million of fresh capital to help finance a development programme, planned both in Britain and abroad, which — conservatively — runs to £550 million.

Had Slough made a domestic rather than a Eurobond issue, it might have had to offer a coupon at least 1 to 1.5 percentage points higher.

The bonds are convertible from June 1988 into ordinary shares at 324p each, and because the conversion price is not very far removed from last published net worth of 287p a share, the dilution effect should be minimal. Full conversion of the bond would result in the issue of shares representing approximately 16.7 per cent of Slough's existing capital.

Conversion price is also fairly close to the current estimate of net worth of at least 300p a share, which looks certain to rise. By year-end, net asset value could well have risen to between 340p and 350p a share.

There is a "rolling put" option, enabling holders to redeem between the years 1993 and 1998 at a value which assures a compound redemption yield of around 9.45 per cent.

Meanwhile, following recently-posted 1987 results showing pretax profits up from £49.6 million to £61.8 million, City forecasts for 1988 — which were about the £70 million mark — have been further upgraded. Borrowing at 6 per cent with the ability to deploy funds in the money market could add another £2 million to the pretax line.

Slough Estates' significant hold on the South-east industrial market, where demand remains strong, suggests the company — either via the bonds or the shares — is worth following.

cashflow from the mines should now finance future development.

Kleinwort Greaveson expects profits to bounce to £1.1 million this year and £5.8 million next year. The shares, up 5p to 100p yesterday, still do not put as high a value on the company as comparable minerals companies. There should be some way for the shares to go.

million acquisition of the Diston Company, a leading American hand tool manufacturer, was scrapped at the eleventh hour over what appears to be a legal hitch.

A confidentiality clause shrouds the stumbling block. But it is possible that Neil, still keen to beef up its US operations, will return to Diston if the hitch can be resolved.

It is also worth remembering that Spear & Jackson, the Sheffield hand tool manufacturer Neil acquired in December 1985, has only just been fully integrated following delays caused by the fire. Cost savings of at least £500,000 should begin flowing through to boost profits this year.

Neil can take heart from the fact that overseas competitors do not seem to be making many inroads into the British market.

There are still tasks ahead. In addition to strengthening its presence in America, Neil needs to acquire a company or distribution network in Europe to boost its profile in the EEC.

It is already lumber three in its field in Europe, and takeover talks with a West German company are under way.

James Neill

James Neill, having climbed back from the setback it suffered when its Sheffield factory caught fire two years ago, now has a problem finding a way in fire the imagination of the City. Analysts seem less than excited by the company, in spite of a track record that, in the past, has attracted both Suter and Williams Holdings in to the share register.

Notwithstanding an impressive 68 per cent rise in pretax profits to £7.61 million last year on sales of £79.9 million, and a 70 per cent jump in earnings to 22.1p a share, the hand and garden tool group is dogged with a p/e of about 9, against an industry average of just above 10.

With analysts expecting pretax profits this year of about £9 million and earnings of 24p a share, the prospective p/e — for a company which many feel should carry a premium rating — falls to 8.

It is true that Neill's recovery received another setback recently when its proposed £6

Slough Estates

Slough Estates has been astute with the timing of its £150 million Euro-convertible bond issue dated 2003, which has more than just passing attraction.

Because the relative yield attraction once evident on its

Financing Enterprise

Why Royal Trust Bank means a great deal to European Electronic Systems

The International Stock Exchange in London now has a new "Watchdog".

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hares

ment could soon be put on the market.

Although the shares of Underwoods slipped by 13p on the end-of-account to 132p, the word is that Mr George Davies, who is making a bid for the company.

Mr Davies, a former executive director of Underwoods, is keen to keep the company's assets intact and give the management team a chance to work out an early buyout of the company.

At yesterday's close of the London stock market, Underwoods is valued at £49 million, compared with the £49 million of the company when it came to the market in November 1987.

Mr Davies could be making a bid for the company, but it is not clear whether he is planning to buy the company outright or to take it over through a subsidiary.

Mr Davies has already spent £1 million on a bid for the company, but it is not clear whether he is planning to buy the company outright or to take it over through a subsidiary.

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Shares of Nest closed at 258p, after 256p. The share price of Nest is up 2p on the day.

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Main table containing various unit trust information, including names of trusts, managers, and performance data. Columns include trust names, managers, and various financial metrics.

The price in this section refers to Thursday's trading

in £100,000. £100,000 of a unit trust is a unit trust. The price in this section refers to Thursday's trading.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company names, prices, and other financial details.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies, including Sterling, Dollar, and Gold.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for trust names, managers, and performance data.

MONEY MARKETS

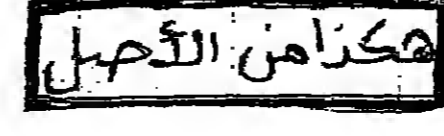
Table of money market rates, including Euro Money Deposits and Bullion.

THIRD MARKET

Table of third market trading data, including Treasury Bills and LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices, including LONDON METAL EXCHANGE and LONDON GRAIN FUTURES.



Battle of the lenders

Mortgage borrowers must be wondering what hit them last week. Only two or three weeks ago home loan rates were well above 10 per cent. Suddenly they are down by 0.5 percentage points or more, with some as much as 1 point lower.

The banks and building societies have again become locked in one of their competitive skirmishes, which is promoting the downward spiral of lending rates.

The building societies are flush with money to lend at the moment as retail depositors show the stock market and put their money where the sun is. What is more, the spring and summer are upon us.

After base rates fell from 8.5 to 8 per cent the Halifax and the Abbey National led the way with a restrained mortgage rate cut of about 0.5 points to 9.75 per cent. But that gave everyone else a target to shoot at. Within hours, the Woolwich and the National Westminster Bank had dropped to 9.5 per cent.

Several smaller companies went even further. First Mortgage Securities — one of the new breed of small specialized mortgage lenders — cut to 8.65 per cent and United Bank of Kuwait fell to 9.15 per cent.

Some borrowers may prefer Libor loan

The Nationwide Anglia will introduce a new lower rate on May 1. In the meantime, the society has brought out one of the increasingly popular Libor-linked mortgage schemes. Any new or existing borrower can apply for one. The idea is that the loan is linked to the three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor), the wholesale money market rate to which much commercial lending is also linked.

Under this plan the borrower pays 1.25 points above this rate, reviewed every three months. Libor mortgages are cheaper under certain conditions. There is no constant and certain relationship between a building society's ordinary mortgage rate, and the money market rates from which it funds some of its lending. Just recently, for example, bank base rates have dropped sharply and mortgage rates have taken several weeks to catch up.

In the short term, borrowers who believe base rates will fall still further might feel more comfortable with a Libor-linked loan to reflect the fall

in the ordinary mortgage rate.

But while that works over three or four months, what is the outlook over a period of years? According to the Nationwide Anglia, someone taking out a Libor-linked loan two or three years ago would have had smaller repayments than someone on a conventional mortgage.

The societies have clearly found that they can get away with charging more than 1.25 points over money market rates for mortgages even in the current competitive market. There is little reason why that should change.

And canny borrowers who shop around should be able to find even better offers. The Nationwide Anglia's 1.25-point margin over Libor is about in the middle of the range of those lenders offering such loans. Citibank, for instance, is offering one at only 1 point above Libor.

But the Libor loan is only one of a range of mortgages that societies such as the Nationwide Anglia now offer, from pension-linked mortgages to low-start and other more complex schemes.

One of the most interesting of the Nationwide's new range aimed at existing home-owners is the Flexible Mortgage Plan, allowing borrowers to take a repayment holiday of up to five years. They can make up the difference later by extending the loan. This gives people starting families or taking time off to study a chance to lift the financial burden at least temporarily.

Borrowers should as usual not forget to look carefully at the annual percentage rates — the amount you actually pay after the compounding effect of the interest payments is taken into account. Not all lenders calculate interest in the same way, so some odd anomalies appear. NatWest, for example, calculates the interest on an annual basis, as do most building societies. This means that its APRs tend to be high even if the nominal rate looks quite low.

But Barclays and most of the other clearing banks calculate interest monthly, making their APRs lower.

The result? NatWest is offering mortgages at a nominal 9.5 per cent but the APR is actually 10.1 per cent. Barclays is offering mortgages at a nominal 9.75 per cent but do not be fooled — its APR is 10.1 per cent, exactly the same as NatWest's.

Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Last-gasp gas deal

If, despite the reminders, you still have not paid the third call on your British Gas shares, do not despair. Although most brokers will not deal in the partly paid shares, there is still a way to sell without paying more money.

Debenhams Investment Services has struck a deal with the Department of Energy whereby those who have not sent off their payments can sell the shares by sending

their call notice, with an instruction to sell to Department Gas, Debenhams Investment Services, 214 Oxford Street, London W1N 9DF.

Alternatively, you can go into the share shops in the London or Bristol branches of Debenhams or Harvey Nichols of Knightsbridge. Inquiries should be made to 01-439 0306. The service is likely to exist for only a few more days.

'Stockwatch' your essential service

The Times Stockwatch is an essential service for all investors. It gives instant access to the latest prices of more than 10,000 shares, unit trusts and managed funds. Stockwatch is available at any time, from anywhere in Britain, via a telephone at home, in your car or from a public kiosk.

Stockwatch members can use the powerful computing facilities of the Stockwatch service to obtain a current valuation of individual holdings or indeed whole portfolios of up to 25 investments.

Members wishing to use the Stockwatch Portfolio service are issued with a unique password and may enter details of their portfolios. Once these are in the Stockwatch memory system, prices can be called up directly from the Stock Exchange's own display system (SEAQ).

Portfolio details remain secure and private. They can be accessed only with the unique password. Members may change the details held in the Stockwatch memory as often as they wish, at any time, and with only a single call.

Using the commands listed in the free Stockwatch user manual and index of share codes, Stockwatch members can also access a range of financial reports and bulletins from financial markets around the world. Currencies, metals and even penny shares are covered.

For a limited period The Times is offering free membership of Stockwatch to its readers. There are no subscription charges and no fees

to pay. There is a £10 returnable "good faith" deposit, which must accompany all applications.

More than six months of planning with British Telecom and its Citycall subsidiary have been invested in The Times' Stockwatch service in order to ensure that it is superior to other investor information services.

For a brief demonstration of how the Stockwatch service operates, you may call 0898-141-142.

Stockwatch operates on a digital system through a Multi-Frequency telephone. All Stockwatch members are supplied with a free keypad, which can be used with any conventional phone — simply hold the miniature keypad over the mouthpiece and tap out the desired code numbers.

Win £1,000 unit trusts

Can you name the five businessmen pictured here from the clues provided? If you can, you could win £1,000 of unit trusts donated by Equitable Life.

The photographs are not, however, your only guide to the mystery men of business. Every day this week one of them has been interviewed in for our new Stockwatch competition — five interviews on successive days.

Today is the final day of this week's competition and by now you should have already identified the five businessmen

from the recorded interview on our special Stockwatcher telephone line.

If you missed any day or would like to hear the voices again you can ring our Stockwatcher line today to catch a compilation of the week's interviews.

The Stockwatcher number is 0898-141-400.

To enter, write down the names of the personalities on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope in the order you heard them. Then send it with your name and address to: Stockwatcher, The Times,



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To apply for free charter membership of THE TIMES STOCKWATCH Service, please complete this application form, enclose the £10 "good faith" deposit, and send to the address given below. PLEASE USE BALLPOINT AND CAPITAL LETTERS.

0898 141 141

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ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

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OCCUPATION _____ DATE _____

I enclose a cheque or Postal Order for £10 made payable to 'BT CITYCALL LTD'. (This will be refundable as a voucher redeemable against my telephone bill).

Please debit my Access/Visa card no: _____

EXPIRY DATE _____

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Send remittance and coupon to:
The Times Stockwatch, FREEPOST, Newbury, Berkshire, RG13 1BR

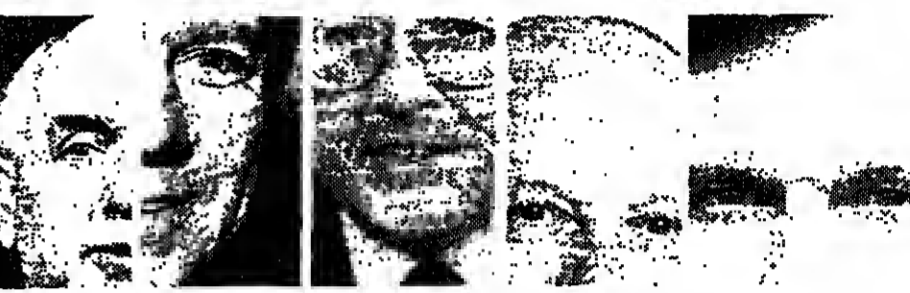
Please allow up to 28 days for your membership pack from receipt of order. Offer available in the UK only.

*Free membership available for a limited period only

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5 Brittons Court, London EC8B 1AJ. from Equitable Life. number will again be 0898-141-400.

The first correct entry drawn after our closing date of Friday, April 29, will win £1,000 worth of unit trusts. A new competition, with five more businessmen and another £1,000 of unit trusts as prizes, starts next Monday. The Stockwatcher telephone Charges include VAT.



MERCURY 90:10 TRUST

CAPITAL GROWTH WITH LIMITED RISK

- 90% investment in bonds and cash for capital protection
- Potential for significant capital growth through 10% investment in a global options portfolio
- Choice of four major currencies — \$, £, DM and Yen

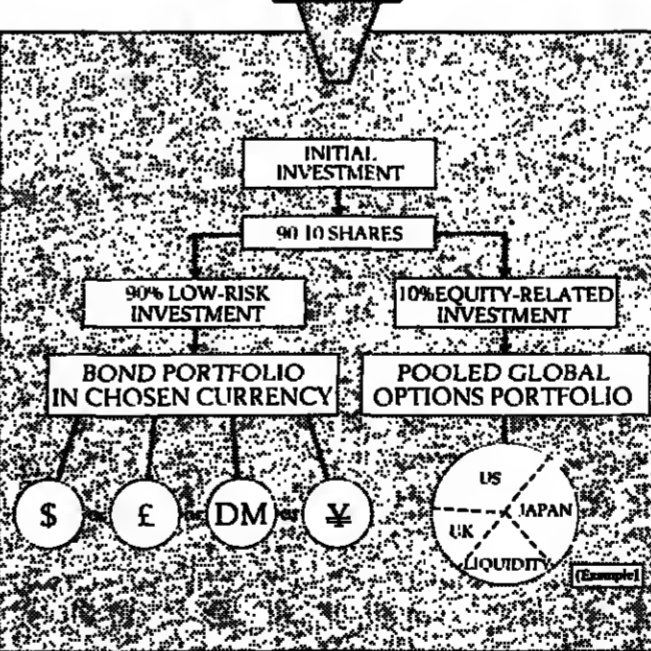
Equities have traditionally provided investors with one of the best sources of long-term capital growth. However, the events of October, 1987 highlighted the risks accompanying equity investment.

Mercury 90:10 Trust has been designed to meet the needs of those investors who wish to protect capital value without forgoing the possibility of real long-term capital growth.

The way in which these objectives are sought is described by the name, 90:10 —

- 90 per cent of each subscription* is invested in low-risk investments, primarily short-dated bonds, other money market investments and cash.
- The remaining 10 per cent of each subscription* is earmarked for investment in a portfolio of share and stockmarket index options to capture gains in major equity markets.

Mercury 90:10 Trust offers four distinct Funds, each with a bond portfolio having a different currency base. Investors can therefore choose between low-risk investments in Dollar, Sterling, Deutschemark or Yen Funds. Each Fund participates in a pooled global options portfolio.



**-NEW FUND-
ACT BEFORE
28th APRIL**

The pooled options portfolio will provide exposure to major equity markets through global investment in options on shares and stockmarket indices. In rising markets investors benefit from the gearing effect provided by a successful options strategy. In falling markets exposure is limited to the amount invested in options.

Mercury 90:10 Trust therefore offers exposure to equities for a fraction of the cost of direct equity investment. Risk is reduced but opportunity for achieving capital growth remains.

Investors can adjust their relative exposure to bonds and equities by rebalancing their holdings to the 90:10 proportion.

Mercury 90:10 Trust is incorporated as a Luxembourg SICAV, managed by Warburg Investment Management Luxembourg, which in turn is advised by Warburg Asset Management in London.

It is not intended to apply for distributor status for UK tax purposes.

This advertisement is issued by Mercury Asset Management Group plc for information only and does not constitute an offer of securities, directly or indirectly, to any person. Full details of Mercury 90:10 Trust are contained in the Prospectus which can be obtained until 28th April, 1988 by returning the coupon. Investments will be accepted only on the basis of the Prospectus.

*After deducting the initial charge of up to 5 per cent.

To: Mercury Investment Services Ltd,
33 King William Street,
London EC4R 9AS.
Tel. No: 01-280 2800

Please send me the Prospectus for Mercury 90:10 Trust.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____

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Company _____

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For full details of the world's largest and longest established Holiday-Property Club, please contact:

COMSER INTERNATIONAL, Dept
FAIRVIEW RD, TIMPERLEY, CHESHIRE, WA15 7AR
TEL: 061-904 9750

RETURNS RATES
Retail Prices Index (Mar '87 to Mar '88) +3.5%
Mortgage rate* 9.25% - 10%
Bank base rate 8%
Bank prime overdraft rate* 11-15.5% APR
Personal loan rate* 13% APR
Credit card rate* 23.1% APR
Hire purchase rate* 26% APR
Bank deposit account 2%
Building society ordinary account 4%
High-interest cheque account 5.75%
Holiday exchange rates*
Spain 16.5p
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10% MONTHLY p.a. INCOME!

This specially designed investment offers a high monthly income which has risen year by year and is completely free from income tax.

Even though UK interest rates have now fallen to a 10 year low, this fund can still provide 10% per annum - payable monthly.

Look at the table showing how the income from £10,000 invested in April 1983 has risen from £83.61 per month to £115.13 per month. And the results, taking half yearly income, are equally impressive.

In addition to producing the income shown below, your original investment of £10,000 would have increased to £14,208 by 5th April 1988.

To take full advantage of this exceptional opportunity, complete and return the coupon without obligation right away.

Income produced from £10,000 invested in April 1983 cashing in 10% of your capital per annum.

Average Monthly Income - Apr - Apr				
1983/4	1984/5	1985/6	1986/7	1987/88
£83.61	£90.57	£98.11	£106.28	£115.13

TAX FREE*

*Investment is a Capital Gain. The allowance of £1,000 is available. All figures are based on an average annual growth rate achieved in the history of investment in the market, and are subject to change. In certain circumstances the rate of growth may be higher or lower than that shown. The figures are based on the assumption that the investment is held for the full term of the investment and that the investor is a resident in the UK. The figures are based on the assumption that the investment is held for the full term of the investment and that the investor is a resident in the UK.

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Nurses' housing hopes

Nurses are still trying to assess whether or not their pay award announced this week will be enough to get them on the house-buying ladder.

Some nurses will get an increase of only 4 per cent while others will get a huge 60 per cent rise in their pay. This could make all the difference between being trapped in rented accommodation and being able to afford a mortgage with one of the special schemes around at the moment.

Georgia Diebel, aged 23, a first-year staff nurse at King's College Hospital, London, earns a basic staff nurse salary, which is £7,300, or in her case £8,230 including London weighting. Her take-home pay varies from £512 to £549 a month depending on how many night shifts and weekends she has worked.

She lives in a rented house near the hospital with three other women and hopes to be able to get a mortgage with help from her family.

She says: "Even with the increase, there's no chance of a staff nurse being able to afford a mortgage on her own. The only way I could do it is with help from my family or maybe by sharing."

As an acting senior nurse at Westminster Hospital, a Lon-

don teaching hospital, Laura Savage is going to reap the fullest benefits from the Government's pay awards. Nurses such as Laura Savage and Georgia Diebel, who work in London, are going to be significantly better off.

If the award is to staunch the haemorrhaging of nursing staff out of London's hospitals, the big question is whether they will enable nurses to get a toe on the housing ladder.

For a senior nurse such as Laura there is good news. An acting senior nurse is one grade up from a sister and two up from a staff nurse. Three new bands have been introduced for ward sisters in inner London, going from £12,048 to £17,238. If Laura finds herself on the second band, she could well see her salary rise by 60 per cent.

It will not be easy in London

It is an academic question for Laura as she and her husband moved out of London to Kent in order to buy a house. They pay just under £500 a month in mortgage repayments on a house they bought for £75,000. It remains to be seen whether

the pay awards of her junior colleagues - staff nurses at the Westminster now start at £9,677 on the lower scale and end on £12,538 on the upper scale - are big enough to enable them to join her in the housing market.

With the average two-bedroom Victorian terrace house in London now fetching £75,000 and rising, it is not going to be easy for newly enriched nurses in London. But at least it is no longer impossible.

Many of them will now look towards the cost-cutting Partnership Mortgage Scheme introduced for NHS employees in the London area by the Nationwide Anglia Building Society.

"We are not yet sure how the pay award will affect the pay award in London," a spokesman for the society said. "But our basic response is that any increase must obviously help."

Under the scheme, NHS staff can borrow more than usual, and they pay a lower rate of interest - two-thirds of normal rate, at present 6.8 per cent rather than 10.3 per cent, although Nationwide Anglia is expected to cut its rates next week.

But to balance these concessions Nationwide Anglia

takes a share of the profits when the property is sold.

The amount that goes to the building society depends on what percentage the loan represented of the value of the property. For instance, if it was a 100 per cent loan, Nationwide Anglia takes half of the profit; on an 80 per cent loan the society would take 40 per cent of the profit.

Any increase in the value of the property above 15 per cent will be ignored, when the building society is taking its cut. And any improvements that increase the value of the property will be taken into account when dividing the spoils after a sale.

The monthly repayments on a maximum 100 per cent loan of £75,000 would be £485.53 a month. In the outer metropolitan area, the maximum is £60,000. If nurses take

Reward through commissions

the deferred capital repayment plan and pay the interest only on the loan during the first five years, the monthly repayments drop to £382.83.

Many nurses are considering teaming up with others to purchase a house jointly. One company, Property



Georgia Diebel helped

Home Share Club, of Pall Mall, London, is negotiating with Brighton Health Authority on a plan that gives mortgages of up to three times their individual's incomes for up to four people. The interest rate will be 9.8 per cent. The offer would put the chance of buying a house within the range of most people on a modest income.

No charge would be made to staff for the service. Property Home Share Club would get their reward through commissions on enforcement policies taken out on the mortgages.

The August deadline for joint purchase schemes to qualify for multiple tax relief is looming. At present, groups of people who team up to buy houses can each get tax relief on interest payments on mortgages up to £30,000. After the deadline, tax relief will be limited to £30,000 per property.

Peter Morris

Holding operation for finance A Day

From next Friday it will become a criminal offence to carry on an investment business without full or part authorization under the Financial Services Act.

But not all investment advisers still trading from next Friday will eventually become authorized by the Securities and Investments Board or one of its recognized self-regulatory organizations. And it will not be easy to tell at a glance which these are.

Because of the work involved in processing all applications for authorization by next Friday, A Day, firms that do not get full authorization from the relevant regulatory body but had applied for it by February 27 can trade with "interim" authorization. They will not necessarily get full approval, but in the best traditions of British justice firms are considered innocent until proved guilty.

Originally, the SIB had intended to insist that firms with interim authorization should make this plain by splashing their status across business literature.

But it was later decided that this was impracticable, as

some firms might get full authorization in a week or two. There is some comfort to be drawn from the knowledge that although companies with interim authorization have not passed the ultimate test for investor protection they will be subject to the rules of the organization to which they have applied from A Day.

The SIB has estimated that there are likely to be about 5,000 companies that will be sheltering under interim authorization. The honeymoon period, in which these with interim authorization need not declare the fact, will not continue indefinitely. Those that have still not received full authorization by July 1 or the date when the competition scheme comes into effect - if that is later, and it almost certainly will be - will have to disclose their status.

In the meantime, investors can check the status of their adviser on the SIB's public register. But firms with interim authorization can ask to be kept off the list.

For information about registration, write to the SIB at 3 Royal Exchange Buildings, London EC3 3JNL (01-929 3632), or consult Prestel.

Pensions pitfalls

A pensions lawyer believes insurance companies, banks and building societies will find it nearly impossible to sell personal pensions to members of company pension schemes and stay within the law.

The law referred to by Robio Ellison, a council member of the National Association of Pension Funds, is the Financial Services Act, which tells salesmen that they must know their clients and give them best advice.

Personal pensions salesmen will have to know so much about the company pension scheme, such as its history of benefits and expenses ratio, that they will find it almost impossible to justify advice to take up a personal pension and leave the company scheme.

"If an employee is sold a personal pension scheme and it later transpires that the company scheme would have been a better deal, then insurance companies are likely to suffer a series of complaints, and possibly litigation, which they may find difficult to defend," Mr Ellison told 500 pension fund managers at the NAPF's conference.

His company has produced a rather cheeky certificate designed for companies to hand out to company pension scheme members who are considering leaving for a personal pension. This "protection certificate" is headed: "Do not sign up for a personal pension unless the salesman or intermediary has signed this certificate."

This asks him to state that he has examined the company pension scheme, and in particular its growth, benefits structure and overheads, and considered the financial needs of the applicant's family, before coming to the conclusion that a personal pension is preferable.

It also asks him to state: "My commission/bonus in the first year from this sale will be £ and in subsequent years will be £ p.a."

The NAPF, which represents 1,300 of the largest company pension schemes, covering more than 11 million employees, is stepping up its "Look Before You Leap" campaign.

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FAMILY MONEY هكرامن الاصل

Watching out and paying less

Large discounts on household insurance are being offered to members of Britain's 50,000 or more neighbourhood watch schemes. These self-help organizations aimed at crime prevention have had a patchy success record and there are hopes that the newly announced discounts will make them more attractive.

The discounts are available through the 600 insurance brokers belonging to the Institute of Insurance Brokers (IIB), the registered brokers' professional organization. Coverage is underwritten by The Swiss Insurance Company.

Under the scheme a neighbourhood watch member living in one of the riskiest inner city areas, including most of London and parts of Manchester and Liverpool, would pay £10 per £1,000 for contents cover, compared with £11.40 for a non-member. This reduces the annual bill



Building rates discounted too

for cover on £20,000 worth of contents by nearly £30.

A typical rate for inner cities charged by other insurers is £15 per £1,000 worth of cover, so it would be possible for neighbourhood watch members in one of the high-risk areas to reduce their premiums by more than 30 per cent by switching to the IIB scheme.

Someone living in an area classified as least risky under the IIB scheme, typically, the countryside and medium-sized or provincial towns, would pay £2.50 per £1,000 against a standard rate of £3. In the next band up, suburbs affected by occasional burglaries, the rates are £4 for members and £4.92 for non-members, while in the next tier up, the second most risky areas, the figures are £7.50 against £9.60.

The IIB says it will be possible for an individual neighbourhood watch scheme to be moved to a cheaper band if its members prove that it has a lower record for claims than other areas in its band. This means members of a watch scheme covering just two or three streets or a single housing estate may qualify for a cheaper rate.

As an extreme example, if members of a scheme in the

centre of London managed to reduce claims so much that they qualified for a re-rating to the least risky area, they would reduce their premiums to a quarter of their previous level.

Members of neighbourhood watches also qualify for a discount on buildings premiums. This rate is £1.20 per £1,000 for centrally heated homes or £1.30 for others, against typical figures in the industry of £1.80 or £2 per £1,000 of rebuilding costs.

The neighbourhood watch scheme is modelled on an American idea for crime prevention. It relies on vigilance by neighbours in reporting suspicious events. The results of a study of two London schemes commissioned by the Home Office and released last May said the incidence of crime increased while the areas were being monitored.

Alan Blows, chairman of the co-ordinating body for the 8,200 London watches, said

the scheme to which he belonged had cut local crime by 80 per cent at one point.

But neighbourhood watch was suffering from an image problem and this needed to be changed. People think the scheme is about "old ladies peeping from behind their curtains".

Andrew Paddick, the IIB's director-general, said yesterday that some watches had "excellent" results. Strivers, the company that will administer the new IIB scheme, said there had been a "very significant" reduction in claims from watch members compared with those from non-members.

John Brownhill, managing director of London insurance brokers Brownhill Morris, which already runs a discount scheme for neighbourhood watch members, says it has also been successful in reducing claims. Neighbourhood watch members get a reduction when they join the

eral Accident, is also low — £1.60 per £1,000, coming down to £1.20 with no-claims bonuses.

Brownhill's scheme counts all types of claims on policies in assessing eligibility for its bonus, whereas the IIB scheme looks at only crime-related ones.

Royal Insurance is one of the few large companies to offer an incentive for watch members. Its Homeshield contents policy launched in 1986 offers them 5 per cent off contents premiums in addition to 15 per cent for a full security "work-out", including fitting of any devices recommended by a consultant, and 5 per cent for an alarm fitted by an approved company.

Royal's standard rates range from £3.20 per £1,000 in its lowest-rated areas to £15 per £1,000 in the toughest inner city areas.

Variation from place to place

Legal & General offers discounts of up to 20 per cent if you take certain household security precautions, but it is wary about doing anything specially for neighbourhood watch members.

"The quality of these organizations varies from place to place and depends on the skills of the individuals involved," says Gerald Eaton, the marketing development manager. "We have no statistical evidence to justify any movement in our rates for neighbourhood watch."

Maria Scott For the address of your nearest IIB broker, write to the institute at Barclays Bank Chambers, College Street, Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 0NW (0933 410003)

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Telecom's quiet lines

British Telecom, seldom coy about achievements, these days has kept remarkably quiet about a collection of services that are a positive boon to anyone running a small business from home.

Using its Star system on just one new-style digital telephone, you can, for instance, take two calls at once, keeping one on hold or alternating between the two. This is ideal for somebody who makes a lot of calls and does not want people to telephone back and constantly find the line engaged.

To avoid missing an important call, the telephone can be programmed to divert all calls to another number. Another option allows three-way calling — that is, you and two other callers can link up for conferences.

But the service that might appeal most, not just to the cost-conscious self-employed but also to parents impoverished by their youngsters' telephone excesses, is called Outgoing Call Barring.

Depending on which code is dialled into the teleboob, this will bar all calls except the emergency 999 and fault-reporting 151 numbers, or bar international or national calls and limit the use to local numbers. Similarly, if the user just wants peace and quiet, all incoming calls can be barred.

Then there are handy services such as short codes for numbers used frequently, a "repeat last call" option to save re-dialling, reminder calls to wake you up on a one-off or regular basis, and a way of having calls costed immediately.

Theoretically, Star Services are available nation-wide and



"Hold on while I divert all BT's calls to the hospital"

have been in operation for about a year. In practice, they are still limited to areas that have gone digital — that is, exchanges that have been modernized from the old analogue to the new digital system, which should speed up connections and virtually eliminate crossed lines. Even at its current rate of updating

two or three a day, BT estimates the whole operation will take until the year 2000.

At the moment three million of the nearly 23 million lines in the UK are on digital exchanges, mostly in cities.

Meanwhile, it is often possible to obtain the services by changing your telephone number to one within the nearest digital exchange.

The new-style telephones require plug-in sockets, costing £25 to have installed. If the telephone alone has to be changed, BT charges a £15 call-out fee. After that, to obtain the full range of Star Services and Filofax your life Telecom-style, add £17 a quarter to your bill. A slimline package of call diversion, call waiting, repeat last call and code calling, and three-way calling costs you £13; or you can have individual services at £4 or £6 each per quarter.

Paul Brett, BT's product manager, explained that the company was trying to develop the telephone culture that has long existed in the United States.

But because we have not quite reached this advanced level of sophistication, helpful Telecom voices guide both user and caller through the intricacies of BT's new telephonic leavies.

Rachel Warren

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Georgia Diebel helped Home Share Club of Fort Worth, Texas, is negotiating a plan that gives these individuals income for up to three times up to the people. The amount would be 1.8 per cent. The plan would put the chance of buying a house within the range of most people on a modest income.

operation nce A Day

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ns pitfalls

many has produced a certificate which certifies that the companies in question are members of a professional body. This "process" is intended to give a personal touch to the salesmen who are selling the scheme. It is also intended to give a personal touch to the salesmen who are selling the scheme. It is also intended to give a personal touch to the salesmen who are selling the scheme.

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1	+4	+4	+4	+6	+4		
2	+5	+6	+3	+2	+5		
3	+4	+5	+6	+5	+6		
4	+8	+6	+2	+4	+4		
5	+5	+6	+3	+6	+3		
6	+8	+6	+3	+5	+4		
7	+5	+5	+4	+2	+6		
8	+3	+5	+7	+3	+5		
9	+7	+5	+3	+3	+4		
10	+6	+4	+5	+5	+3		
11	+4	+6	+7	+2	+6		
12	+5	+4	+3	+7	+5		
13	+7	+7	+3	+3	+5		
14	+5	+5	+6	+2	+7		
15	+6	+5	+2	+1	+6		
16	+7	+5	+2	+3	+3		
17	+4	+4	+5	+7	+4		
18	+4	+5	+7	+2	+6		
19	+4	+5	+5	+2	+6		
20	+5	+6	+3	+2	+4		
21	+5	+4	+3	+5	+3		
22	+7	+5	+2	+5	+5		
23	+5	+7	+4	+2	+6		
24	+4	+5	+5	+5	+3		
25	+7	+6	+2	+3	+3		
26	+3	+5	+5	+5	+5		
27	+6	+4	+3	+5	+5		
28	+6	+6	+3	+1	+4		
29	+5	+5	+6	+2	+7		
30	+8	+5	+2	+4	+3		
31	+7	+5	+2	+3	+4		
32	+4	+6	+6	+5	+6		
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38	+5	+7	+3	+2	+5		
39	+6	+4	+4	+3	+4		
40	+7	+7	+2	+2	+3		
41	+4	+4	+3	+7	+5		
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43	+7	+5	+3	+5	+5		
44	+5	+4	+6	+2	+5		

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Rupert in the City

Rupert Bear, that venerable cartoon pensioner, will act as mascot for Britain's first unit trust specifically designed to attract savings for children.

The new fund - the Rupert Bear trust, launched by MIM Britannia this week - may not take pocket money of 50p a week, but will allow children, or more probably their parents, godparents and families, to invest as little as a £50 lump sum or to start monthly savings plans for £10 a week.

The new fund will be almost as cautious as the Highway Code. Even if the managers do not guarantee to stop, look and listen before every decision they make, they will invest only in the huge companies whose shares are covered by the FT-SE 100 index. The stress will be on

long-term growth to provide an ostrich-sized nest egg perhaps on the child's 18th or 21st birthday.

Banks and building societies actually aim to attract children's own savings, whereas MIM Britannia is concerned with savings for children, and therefore an adult market.

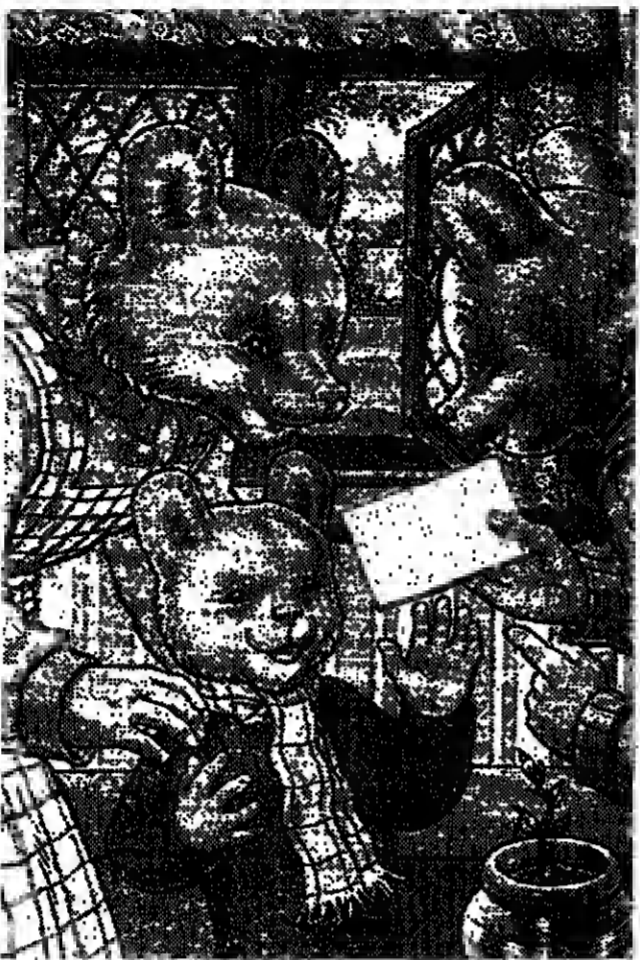
All the same, the standard gimmicks are there. If you want a "free" black and yellow Rupert scarf for the child, just invest £400 in the new fund. If you up the stakes to £800, there will be a teddy of Rupert himself. Finally, the child will get both if you hit the jackpot with £1,200.

If it is beyond you, you can always buy them at £5 and £10 respectively.

Bank and building society accounts may be useful as a way of teaching children thrift on their birthday and pocket money finance, but on past form unit trusts are far more likely to provide worthwhile money over 10 years or more.

The Rupert Trust is a UK growth fund under its glossy wrapping, and figures from the Unit Trust Association show a dramatic contrast between the fortunes of investors who have put money into funds of this kind in the past, and those who have left money with building societies.

Anyone who put £1,000 into a UK growth trust 10 years ago and whose results were absolutely in the middle of the performance tables would now have a nest egg worth £5,068. Money in a typical building society share account, where all the interest has been re-invested, would now be worth £2,083, or well under half as much.



A gift for Rupert: part of the new unit trust fund's publicity

Tom Tickell

Now the Brits get bonuses in the air



Boredom on board: In Britain the relief can now be free flight tickets for the loyal traveller

For years European airlines have relied on the quality of their in-flight catering and vintage wines to secure customer loyalty. Now Northwest Airlines has brought free flight tickets, so common in North America, to the UK.

With competition from the European Community hotting up in the airline world, greater incentives seem likely to be the order of the day. It is possible that such schemes as free flight tickets will attract the attention of the Inland Revenue, which may regard such a "facility" as a taxable perk.

However, the red tape in tracking down such benefits in a wealth of travel agents' papers may continue to work to the loyal traveller's benefit.

While motorists collect coupons when they buy petrol, airline passengers collect credit miles that can be traded in for free air travel. When the traveller joins the Northwest "Worldperks" scheme, for instance, he has 5,000 miles credited as a starter bonus. On a flight from Gatwick to Boston return, the traveller would have a credit of 6,566 miles.

When 20,000 miles have been clocked up, the airline gives a complimentary round-trip on its US and Canadian network. For 40,000 miles you get a free transatlantic round-trip ticket.

If you fly business - sometimes called executive - class, an extra 25 per cent of the miles flown is added, while

first-class qualifies for a 50 per cent bonus. At present Northwest is offering a free round-trip ticket to Hawaii for just 60,000-credit miles.

Many American airlines offer similar packages to US citizens and are quietly opening up to UK travellers. Continental and Piedmont give 2,500 credit miles on starting, TWA awards 3,000, and Delta and PanAm give 5,000. United grants 3,000 but adds a further 2,000 when the first flight is purchased.

Not to be outdone, Virgin Atlantic's Upper Class to Miami (£651 each way) and Newark, New Jersey (£646 each way), plus £15 airport taxes in both cases, gives a free economy ticket worth £119-£269 that is valid for 12 months. However, reservations may be made only on the day of departure at peak times.

Many schemes also give credits for hotel bookings if they are made when air tickets are bought. Northwest gives 500 credit miles for making a booking at the same time as ordering the air ticket.

United Airlines does not fly across the Atlantic and therefore works its scheme through such carriers as British Airways and KLM.

A key element here is the point for ticket purchase and flight. If it is in Europe, the linked carriers have a far less generous allowance. For every 60,000 miles, KLM will give one economy return ticket across to the United States but BA requires 75,000 miles to be built up.

Apart from free travel, the airlines will upgrade a class for frequent flyers. When 10,000 miles are reached with United and TWA, passengers may move from economy to executive or from executive to first class. Lufthansa grants an upgrading after 20,000 miles on its transatlantic flights. The mileages applying at Air France and BA are 30,000 and 40,000 respectively.

Children also qualify for the full credit miles scheme. Usually it is only "fly-drive" special economy packages that do not attract this valuable perk.

Chauffeur-driven cars to take travellers to the airport are another facility offered by an increasing number of airlines. They include United Arab Emirates, Virgin's Upper Class and Qantas (with complimentary hotel accommodation at Heathrow for those on the early flight to Sydney and Melbourne).

A helicopter service is free through BA, PanAm, Swissair and TWA to Manhattan from New York.

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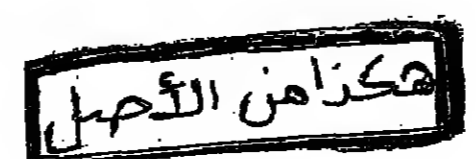
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CRICKET: JEFFERIES AND TREMLETT FIGHT HARD BUT FAIL TO SAVE HAMPSHIRE FROM AN EMBARRASSING ROUT

Two days enough for Surrey to force easy victory

By John Woodcock

SOUTHAMPTON: Surrey (22ns) beat Hampshire (4) by nine wickets

The curious idea that four-day cricket will prove to be the panacea the English game is looking for was not furthered by the conditions for Hampshire's match with Surrey. Far from a fourth day being put to good purpose, two were enough for Surrey to win by nine wickets. Yesterday Hampshire were bowled out for 91 and 198, and saved from an even heavier defeat only by a significantly robust partnership of 92 between Jeffries and Tremlett late in Hampshire's second innings.

Once Hampshire had failed by six runs to save the follow-on, there was never likely to be any escape for them. Rather than getting slower and easier, the pitch continued to encourage extravagant movement off the seam. Until Jeffries and Tremlett came together, seldom an over passed without the bat being beaten a time or two. There was never the slightest question of Medicoct, Surrey's only spinner, being asked to bowl.

Play took place mostly in bright light and the bat being pitched well up. Had Hampshire been playing away from home they would have had some reason to object to the pitch; and if they could have had the morning over again they would no doubt have made a much bolder, more calculated effort to avoid following on.

As it was, Maru, the night watchman, had not added to his score when he was out after 55 minutes play, and when Peters did drop short to Robin Smith and Turner they both hooked him obligingly to long

leg, where the first of Clinton's two catches was a very good one.

Peters must be thinking it is all rather easier than playing for Sherborne, whose side he was in for three years, against Blundells. But he will find it a lot harder at the Oval on better pitches than this one. Aged 20, he is well, though not isometrically built, and in pace he is certainly on the fast side of medium.

Just as Surrey are fortunate to have two obviously promising bowlers in Peters and Martin Bicknell to bring on, so are the young men themselves in luck in having Geoff Arnold to coach them. When, half an hour before lunch yesterday, Surrey were able to enforce the follow-on, it was as though they had got to Wembley they were so delighted, Arnold not least.

Greg's contribution in the morning came through his accuracy. In Hampshire's second innings he was the most effective of the Surrey bowlers, his pace and method being just right for the conditions. And when Surrey were being held up for the first time, by Terry and Parks, Ward held a marvellously good low catch, left-handed, at short leg, to get rid of Parks.

By tea, with Hampshire still 49 runs behind and only three wickets left, it seemed all but over. And so it would have been had Tremlett and Jeffries not both been dropped early in their partnership. Tremlett at slip off Greg and Jeffries at mid-off fell. After that, with the bowlers tiring and the ball ageing and the bat being thrown for the first time in the day, we found ourselves watching, for 90 minutes,

another game.

For so early in the season batting for most of the day really had been awfully awkward, and much of the bowling admirably good. Terry had done most doggedly to bat for two-and-a-half hours, however many times he may have played and missed. But, for Hampshire, it was a story of dashed hopes. To lose as comprehensively as they did, after having had Surrey on the run on the first morning, was very disconcerting for them. . . . and probably for their president too: he had taken a box in which to be "at home" today.

SURREY: First Innings 246 (C J Richards 61; C A Corner 47).
G S Clinton run out 3
D M Smith not out 32
A Stewart not out 8
Extras (lb 6) 8
Total (for one wicket) 47
M Lynch, D M Ward, C J Richards, A Stewart, T Medicoct, M A Fotherham, N H Peters and S T Clarke did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-48, 3-57, 4-91, 5-101, 6-101, 7-101, 8-101, 9-101, 10-101, 11-101, 12-101, 13-101, 14-101, 15-101, 16-101, 17-101, 18-101, 19-101, 20-101, 21-101, 22-101, 23-101, 24-101, 25-101, 26-101, 27-101, 28-101, 29-101, 30-101, 31-101, 32-101, 33-101, 34-101, 35-101, 36-101, 37-101, 38-101, 39-101, 40-101, 41-101, 42-101, 43-101, 44-101, 45-101, 46-101, 47-101, 48-101, 49-101, 50-101, 51-101, 52-101, 53-101, 54-101, 55-101, 56-101, 57-101, 58-101, 59-101, 60-101, 61-101, 62-101, 63-101, 64-101, 65-101, 66-101, 67-101, 68-101, 69-101, 70-101, 71-101, 72-101, 73-101, 74-101, 75-101, 76-101, 77-101, 78-101, 79-101, 80-101, 81-101, 82-101, 83-101, 84-101, 85-101, 86-101, 87-101, 88-101, 89-101, 90-101, 91-101, 92-101, 93-101, 94-101, 95-101, 96-101, 97-101, 98-101, 99-101, 100-101, 101-101, 102-101, 103-101, 104-101, 105-101, 106-101, 107-101, 108-101, 109-101, 110-101, 111-101, 112-101, 113-101, 114-101, 115-101, 116-101, 117-101, 118-101, 119-101, 120-101, 121-101, 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HAMPSHIRE: First Innings
P Terry c Ward b Clarke 4
C L Smith c Greg b Clarke 4
C J Richards c Greg b Clarke 4
R A Smith c Greg b Clarke 4
D R Turner c Clinton b Peters 7
K D James c Stewart b Clarke 12
S T Clarke c Greg b Clarke 12
S T Jeffries c Lynch b Fotherham 6
T M Tremlett lb Fotherham 6
C A Corner c Richards b Fotherham 6
Extras (lb 4, w 3, nb 4) 11
Total 91
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-12, 3-38, 4-58, 5-68, 6-78, 7-88, 8-98, 9-98, 10-98, 11-98, 12-98, 13-98, 14-98, 15-98, 16-98, 17-98, 18-98, 19-98, 20-98, 21-98, 22-98, 23-98, 24-98, 25-98, 26-98, 27-98, 28-98, 29-98, 30-98, 31-98, 32-98, 33-98, 34-98, 35-98, 36-98, 37-98, 38-98, 39-98, 40-98, 41-98, 42-98, 43-98, 44-98, 45-98, 46-98, 47-98, 48-98, 49-98, 50-98, 51-98, 52-98, 53-98, 54-98, 55-98, 56-98, 57-98, 58-98, 59-98, 60-98, 61-98, 62-98, 63-98, 64-98, 65-98, 66-98, 67-98, 68-98, 69-98, 70-98, 71-98, 72-98, 73-98, 74-98, 75-98, 76-98, 77-98, 78-98, 79-98, 80-98, 81-98, 82-98, 83-98, 84-98, 85-98, 86-98, 87-98, 88-98, 89-98, 90-98, 91-98, 92-98, 93-98, 94-98, 95-98, 96-98, 97-98, 98-98, 99-98, 100-98, 101-98, 102-98, 103-98, 104-98, 105-98, 106-98, 107-98, 108-98, 109-98, 110-98, 111-98, 112-98, 113-98, 114-98, 115-98, 116-98, 117-98, 118-98, 119-98, 120-98, 121-98, 122-98, 123-98, 124-98, 125-98, 126-98, 127-98, 128-98, 129-98, 130-98, 131-98, 132-98, 133-98, 134-98, 135-98, 136-98, 137-98, 138-98, 139-98, 140-98, 141-98, 142-98, 143-98, 144-98, 145-98, 146-98, 147-98, 148-98, 149-98, 150-98, 151-98, 152-98, 153-98, 154-98, 155-98, 156-98, 157-98, 158-98, 159-98, 160-98, 161-98, 162-98, 163-98, 164-98, 165-98, 166-98, 167-98, 168-98, 169-98, 170-98, 171-98, 172-98, 173-98, 174-98, 175-98, 176-98, 177-98, 178-98, 179-98, 180-98, 181-98, 182-98, 183-98, 184-98, 185-98, 186-98, 187-98, 188-98, 189-98, 190-98, 191-98, 192-98, 193-98, 194-98, 195-98, 196-98, 197-98, 198-98, 199-98, 200-98, 201-98, 202-98, 203-98, 204-98, 205-98, 206-98, 207-98, 208-98, 209-98, 210-98, 211-98, 212-98, 213-98, 214-98, 215-98, 216-98, 217-98, 218-98, 219-98, 220-98, 221-98, 222-98, 223-98, 224-

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Harford can be match-winner

By Clive White

There were enough false trails yesterday at the Arsenal and Luton Town Press conferences to have led Dr Livingstone astray. While deciding to name their own line-ups, both managers were quite prepared to confuse the press further by passing "casual" judgments on how the opposition would look at Wembley tomorrow.

Ray Harford, the Luton Town manager, "restored" Williams to the Arsenal side, while his opposite number, George Graham, scoffed at the suggestion that Luton would field both Hill and Black. Much of this was game-managing, but certainly no "casual" remarks. On the other hand, "casual" remarks have never played so many cards close to the chest.

If a week is a long time in politics it is no shorter in football. Before Arsenal played Watford last Friday, the result of tomorrow's final looked a foregone conclusion. Arsenal's insouciant performance in defeat and, just as important, O'Leary's submission to his Achilles meant that the scales were tipped far less heavily in Arsenal's favour.

Add to this Luton's determination not to be humiliated in the same season as Watford and this, for many of them, could be their last chance of glory and you have a final of intriguing balance.

The absence of O'Leary has clearly lifted Luton's spirits, notably those of Mick Harford. "O'Leary is the Arsenal defence. He organizes everything," he said. "When Caesar and Adams play together one tends to stick to the right and the other to the left, so I shall go straight up the middle."

Despite Graham's view, I believe that Harford will take a chance on the rustiness of Hill and the inexperience of

Paths to Wembley

LUTON TOWN: Second round First leg: Wigan (away), won 1-0. Second leg: Wigan (home), won 4-2. Third round Coventry (at Leicester), won 3-1. Fourth round Ipswich (away), won 1-0. Fifth round Bradford City (home), won 2-0. Semi-final: First leg: Luton (away), won 2-1. Second leg: Luton (home), won 2-1. Arsenal: Second round: First leg: Doncaster (away), won 3-0. Doncaster (home), won 1-0. Third round: Bourne (home), won 1-0. Fourth round: Stoke (home), won 3-0. Fifth round: Sheffield Wednesday (away), won 1-0. Semi-final: First leg: Everton (away), won 1-0. Second leg: Everton (home), won 3-1.

Final finances

PRIZE-MONEY: Winners: £75,000. Runners-up: £25,000. Leading goalkeepers: £7,500. ATTENDANCE AND REVENUE (estimated): £9,000 (£1.25 million receipts).

The squads

LUTON TOWN: L. Sealey or A. Dibble; T. Breaker; S. Foster (captain); R. Hill; D. McDonough; D. Wilson; D. Prosser; K. Black; B. Stein; M. Stein; M. Harford; M. Johnson; E. Nwajoku; M. Lester; J. Sandford; K. Sansom; N. Winterburn; A. Adams; P. Caesar; S. Williams; P. Davis; D. Rocastle; M. Hayes; K. Richardson; G. Thomas; A. Smith; P. Groves; M. Thomas; P. Merson.

Black, aged 19, the left winger. "At Wembley you have got to have width and people who are prepared to run with the ball," he said. Black and Hill would give him each of those qualities. The alternative to Black would be Prosser, who made an impressive return after a seven-month absence, in Tuesday's win over Queens' Park Rangers, but he would not give Harford the width he requires.

It seems likely that Mark Stein, who has been a regular since the start of the year, will stand down, and his brother, Brian, move forward into his attacking position in a 4-4-2 formation. In goal, Dibble may have done enough in an intense atmosphere of an FA



Steve Williams: likely to be restored by Graham

Cup semi-final to warrant his inclusion ahead of Sealey in another pressure match. At left back Johnson may be preferred to Grimes and Harford is obliged to take a small chance on Donaghy's fitness.

Graham may regret that he did not buy Marwood earlier in the season when he was eligible. If ever he needed a winger, indeed two wingers, to exploit an opponents' weakness it was now. At his best Rocastle has the necessary skill to unlock the Luton defence and storm straight through himself. But he has shown signs of staleness at the end of a long season.

That is not the problem of Davis, who is in dire need of competition after losing the middle of his season with a double hernia. If that were not restrictive enough he twisted his knee last Friday and picked up a bug during the team's break in Marbella this week. Since his return Arsenal have lacked any fluency though that may be more to do with the absence of Williams's midfield authority than any negative contribution by Davis. The permutation here is any two from Davis, Williams and Thomas, who might also be a candidate for defence.

Four players who have been named in the squads for the Littlewoods Cup final at Wembley tomorrow, Mick Harford, Brian Stein, Les Sealey and Kevin Richardson, will be given a reminder of their formative years when the National Association of Boys' Clubs Junior Challenge Cup is decided before the main event.

Harford, Stein, Sealey and Richardson all appeared in NABC finals during the 1970s and tomorrow's teams to compete at Wembley in a six-side match will be those who reached the final of the NABC five-a-side under-16 Challenge Cup at Blechley Leisure Centre today. The winners tomorrow will receive the Littlewoods Junior Challenge Cup, a half-size replica of the main trophy.

England will not rise to an exhibition match

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Ireland and England celebrate Dublin's millennium at Lansdowne Road today, with both countries wondering what the immediate future has in store: Ireland because of their wealth of new caps, England because of the possibility of Willie Carroll's withdrawal from the tour to Australia.

Caring, who is in his final year at Durham University, had hoped to take examinations after the tour ended in June, but he admitted yesterday that he seemed unlikely that he would take up his position there.

All of which will not have helped Orwio, England's new captain, preparing for today's game, sponsored by Digital Equipment Corporation, against the Australian tour out of our minds, he said. "We want no distractions. This inter-

national is important to all of us." Geoff Cooke, the team manager, emphasized the point: "There is no way we are going out to play exhibition rugby and lose."

"It was good, controlled, pressure rugby that earned us the win against Ireland last month. Nothing flashy, just people doing the job for which they were picked. What happened in the second half [when England scored all their points in a 35-3 win] was hard and had been tried in our own test matches."

"I would be unrealistic to expect us to win by such a margin on Saturday. There will be very strong Irish commitment and support. I don't think there will be any problems in the players' attitude, just because it is not a five nations game."

TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD

Ireland			England		
H P MacNeill	15	Full back	J M Webb	15	Full back
J F Sexton	14	Right wing	J Bentley	14	Right wing
V Cunningham	13	Right centre	S J Halliday	13	Right centre
B J Mullin	12	Left centre	W C Carling	12	Left centre
M J Kiernan	11	Left wing	R Underwood	11	Left wing
P M Dain	10	Stand off	C R Andrew	10	Stand off
F P Aherne	9	Scrum half	R M Harding	9	Scrum half
T P J Clancy	1	Prop	P A G Randall	1	Prop
S J Smith	2	Hooker	B C Moore	2	Hooker
J J McCoy	3	Prop	J A Probyn	3	Prop
G P Matthews	6	Flanker	M Skinner	6	Flanker
D G Lenihan	4	Lock	J Orwin	4	Lock
W A Anderson	5	Lock	W A Dooley	5	Lock
W Sexton	7	Flanker	G W Rees	7	Flanker
M E Gibson	8	No 8	D W Egerton	8	No 8

REPLACEMENTS: 16 R C Fitzgerald (Widener); 17 P J Gable (Rushmore); 18 O White (Bangor); 19 M T Bradley (Cork Constitution); 20 R P Keays (Cork Constitution); 21 P P Rehanki (Lansdowne).
REPLACEMENTS: 16 B Barley (Widener); 17 R C Gable (Rushmore); 18 R Moore (Bangor); 19 G J Calcutt (Bath); 20 R G Dew (Bath); 21 A Robinson (Bath).

Amateurs seek to cash in on ideals

By Paul Newman

Two contrasting philosophies are at work in the amateur football world today in the final of the FA Vase. Colne Dynamos and Emley are both pressing for promotion from the Baso North West Counties League and Northern Counties League respectively, but there is the similarity between the clubs ends.

Colne, formed only 25 years ago by their present manager, Graham White, believe that money can help to buy success and for the last two seasons have covered heavily in players of quality and experience. Their side includes five former professionals, Rodaway (Burnley), Mason (Huddersfield Town), Westwell (Preston North End), Burke (Blackburn Rovers) and Diamond (Rochdale).

Emley, who had a tradition of success in the FA Amateur Cup, have attempted to remain true to their amateur ideals of the past. The reality of trying to keep together a successful non-league side means that they have had to pay two members of the present team, but the rest are

Strugglers facing take-over

By George Ace

Newport County, doomed to relegation from the Football League, are on the point of being taken over by a mysterious buyer. Directors confirmed yesterday that a "last hope deal could be signed in the next few days," including a £250,000 rescue package to solve the club's immediate financial problems.

Scott Sellers, of Blackburn Rovers, has put club before county by withdrawing from the England under-21 squad to play France next Wednesday. Blackburn play Swindon on Monday and Crystal Palace next Saturday in vital games.

England have named their under-17 squad to play in a Swiss tournament next month. SQUAD: M Blake (Aston Villa), J Drysdale (Watford), G Harrison (Luton), J Searcy (Tottenham Hotspur), O Kelly (Coventry City), G McLoughlin (Arsenal), A Morris (Norwich City), B Roberts (Tottenham Hotspur), M Perrot (Aston Villa), P Quinn (Everton), A Sheehy (Aston Villa), S Young (Tottenham Hotspur), O Stuart (Chelsea), R Thomas (Watford), P Wrayman (Manchester United).

McLaughlin leads Derry's revival

By George Ace

Derry City are back in Europe for the first time since 1966. The League of Ireland Premier Division side is assured of a place in the Cup Winners' Cup in respect of the outcome of the Football Association of Ireland Cup final against Dundalk.

This is because Dundalk clinched the League of Ireland title by drawing 1-1 with St Patrick's Athletic, who finished runners-up. Derry City meet Dundalk in the Cup final at Dalymount Park on May 1.

For Jim McLaughlin, the Derry general manager, it is a wonderful climax to a season which, early on, was clouded by bitter internal arguments. Derry was a member of the Irish League until the early 1970s, when they withdrew after disturbances in the Anderwyville industrial area. A growing number of supporters, Derry reappplied for

McLaughlin leads Derry's revival

By George Ace

membership on several occasions but were never admitted to division one of the League of Ireland only three seasons ago.

Last season, Derry won promotion to the premier league and battled their way to the FAI Cup final. But with McLaughlin's French victory, a total of six championships and five cup victories in 12 years at the two clubs.

But McLaughlin's roots were in the Maiden City, and his return to Derry was never really in doubt. Little wonder Dundalk will approach Dalymount Park with apprehension.

Vintage to be tested by French

By David Hands

England's colts will try to sustain the momentum of a victorious season in their final and most testing encounter today, against the French youth side at Bristol (David Hands writes). Should they add a French laurel to their trophies, then they can assert that this season's crop is indeed vintage.

After 16 years as a player and administrator at Swansea and Shrewsbury, during which he won 12 Northern Ireland caps, McLaughlin returned to Ireland to manage Dundalk and Shamrock Rovers, where he won a total of six championships and five cup victories in 12 years at the two clubs.

How Bristol can silence critics

By David Hands

The most appropriate answer that Bristol can give to the clubs who have complained over their team selection for today's Courage Club Championship first division match with Coventry at Coundon Road is to win, or is that impossible, given that their chosen players have an aggregate of more than 2,000 appearances in the first XV.

Both Moseley and Waterloo have complained by letter to the senior clubs committee at Bristol's decision to rest their first-choice players — though rest may be a misnomer given the amount of training they are doing — before next Saturday's John Player Special Cup final and second place amounts to the United XV to Coventry.

and is a loophole which needs to be plugged.

However, as Peter Jackson, secretary to the senior clubs, points out, the matter of selection cannot be instructed on matters of selection. "We are preparing a paper giving guidelines which we would like clubs to abide by," he said. "One of them is that the best possible team should be chosen irrespective of the match to be played."

It may be cheerful to point out that both Waterloo (in December) and Moseley (in January) have won games they might very well have lost if their opponents, Bath and Wasps, had not opted to maintain the league status of matches despite fielding sides weakened by divisional and trial calls. Both Bath and Wasps acted within the spirit of the game on those occasions but their opponents might thereby be deemed higher than they should be.

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

- Coventry v Bristol** - Coventry field their strongest line-up, including debutants to Bristol's second XV.
- Gosforth v L Welsh** - Price returns at stand-off for Welsh, who are missing two first-choice threequarters, Griffiths (Cardiff) and Davies (Newport). Williams in for L'Etou (centre).
- Wasps v Orrell** - Wasps, short of their England representatives, play Hume at stand-off, where he partners Carrasco (centre) and play Fenley at scrum half.
- Saracens v I Scottish** - Hancock replaces Kelly in Saracens' centre and Catchpole takes over from Ryan at No. 8. Scottish are without several of their senior players but have four leading backs available, including Hodgkinson, their captain, at centre.
- Nottm v Birkenhead Park** - Nottingham play Mallik (flanker) and Taylor (hooker) for their absent internationals but have four leading backs available, including Hodgkinson, their captain, at centre.

Countdown to finals

Schools football by George Chesterton

The ESFA domestic tournaments are all moving to the final stages. In the BHS competition, Merseyside defeated Lancashire 3-1, and the second on the Cambridge United ground.

In the Nabisco under-16 trophy, St Aidan's School, County Durham, defeated Downham Market 3-0 and now meet Weston Park in the final.

On Monday, England's under-15 XI defeated Switzerland 1-0, and have still not conceded a goal. A day later the under-18s drew 1-1 with the Swiss.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL
NORTH AMERICA: Montreal Expos beat Cincinnati Reds 3-1. San Francisco Giants 6-2 (winning) Chicago Cubs 3-0. Houston Astros 5-2. Pittsburgh Pirates 5-3. Houston Astros 5-2. Houston Astros 5-2. Pittsburgh Pirates 5-3.

BASKETBALL
UNITED STATES: National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) sanctioned a game between Philadelphia 76ers and New York Knicks 101-107.

CRICKET
SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Exeter beat Leicestershire 173 (R. Bennett 4 for 44) and 105 (D. Smith 3 for 54) in a 20-over match at Exeter. E. Rowe 44, N. Smith 55, J. Thomas 4 for 81.

ICE HOCKEY
NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL) Stanley Cup playoffs: Detroit Red Wings 4-3. Los Angeles Kings 5-2. Toronto Maple Leafs 4-1. Philadelphia Flyers 4-0.

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SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Glasgow Rangers beat Dundee United 2-1. Aberdeen 1-0. Dundee United 1-0.

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Wimbledon v Chelsea

Wimbledon, known to have several injuries, have disclosed only two — Thom (groin strain) and Cunningham (knee injury). Sanchez stands by.

Oxford v Everton

Everton have added Adams to the 13 on duty against Coventry. Sheehy is again unavailable with an ankle injury. Drayner returns to the Oxford defence after three weeks' absence.

Portsmouth v Norwich

Drinks will have a late finish last on a first night. Rosario and Biggs stand by. Gosney makes his first division debut in goal for Portsmouth, since he plays as a striker.

Liverpool v Tottenham

Barnes seems certain to return for Liverpool after a groin strain. Liverpool could start the League game for eight weeks after a hernia operation. Clive Allen, who is joining Borussia, is included in the squad. Farwick is suspended.

QPR v Sheffield Wed

McCall has been passed fit only a fortnight after a carriage operation. Both goalkeepers, Hodge and Pressman, are included in the squad.

West Ham v Coventry

Robson has delayed the operation on his broken nose and will only be fit for four weeks after an appendectomy.

Cardiff v Newcastle

Lee has a groin strain, so Bennett has been drafted into the Cardiff squad. Newcastle will be without McRae.

Derby v Southampton

Shilton equals Terry Pate's record number of 824 League appearances against his former club. Forsyth is suspended and there is a fitness query about his fellow full back, Blakey. Sage and McLaren are the likely deputists. Shearer, who scored twice in a 5-0 win over Southampton, is likely to make way for Danny Walker or Clarke. Moore returns after a six-week absence.

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Durham have credentials to take title

By David Hands

The Heineken championships at Wembley this weekend, promise to be the most closely contested in the five-year history of the event (Norman de Mesquita writes). The semi-final pairings are Durham Wasps against Murrayfield Racers and Effe Flyers against Whitley Warriors.

The Racers had a spectacular run during the closing weeks of the season to retain their premier division title, but the Wasps' depth of talent should see them through to the final. Never one of the world's best lifters, I suggest that Durham will play fine, just, in a high-scoring final.

Pyne meets Pritchard

By David Hands

The country's two top 25-milers last year, John Pritchard and Martin Pyne, have their first clash of the new season at that distance tomorrow over a "mass" Essex course centred on Witham (Peter Bryn writes).

They are both members of the Polytechnic-Air Canada club but do not deliberately set out to avoid each other. "It's just a matter of our own individual programme to prepare for the national championships near Basingstoke to June," Pyne said.

Gillanders is confident

By David Hands

David Gillanders, of Scotland, will have a new car for his home event today when the Cello-Autospot national championship visits the Grampian Forests (a Special Correspondent writes).

Last year Gillanders won the national title on an MG Metro GR4 but his new car for the Cordiners Granite City rally is a purpose-built MG Montego fitted with a Rover 820 engine. "The car has taken longer than expected to prepare and it

Gardner aims to impose his authority

By David Hands

Jarama (Reuters) — The world 500cc champion, Wayne Gardner, still chasing his first race win of the season, returns to his favourite event tomorrow, the Spanish Grand Prix.

The Australian has won the race for the last two years, and it was the 1966 race which gave him his first victory in a world championship 500cc event.

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How Bristol can silence critics

By David Hands

Hick upstages Botham with show of power

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire, with eight first-innings wickets standing, are 398 behind Worcestershire. It needed something special to upstage the return of the prodigious Ian Botham and only one man was equipped for the job. Graeme Hick, who must be in danger of exhausting every journalistic superlative before he can even play a Test innings, dominated this gray and wintry day with a double century which converted a few more doubters to the theory that he is potentially the greatest player in the world.

composed majesty that the opposition gathered admiringly, when it ended, to applaud him all the way back to the pavilion. He did not give a chance, he offered no more than three false strokes and he never resorted to the slog — this, on a pitch where the ball was still turning a long way, albeit slowly, and where Watkinson and Allott gained some startling movement off the seam.

Folley tempted him with a little flight, he opened those vast shoulders to drive and Hughes pocketed the catch at cover.

The thing about four-day cricket is that there should be no need to rush. Hick and Neale never lost sight of that, foregoing the usual scramble for bonus points in favour of a formidable final total. Time and again, Neale was beaten outside off stump, both Watkinson and Allott suffering regular anguish, but he never lost concentration.

More cricket, Page 40

Neale, his captain and partner in a fourth wicket stand of 202, batted four and a half hours for his 40.

By comparison, Hick's runs were scored at a rate of almost 40 every hour. He hit four sixes, all thoroughly controlled, and 25 fours. It was the performance of a young master.

Perhaps the greatest compliment to Hick is that no one really minded when Botham failed. It goes without saying that many had come here specifically to see this incorrigible working class hero, but after spending five hours with his back on, and apparently nursing a headache, he batted only 13 deliveries for three. He was fortunate to make so many, as Fowler had dropped him, first ball, at backward short leg.

It was Botham's awkwardness which put Hick's batting in perspective. Eventually, the county champions without their opening batsman, Wilf Slack, who went down with influenza on Wednesday.

Hick's 212, scored out of 298 in five and three-quarter hours, made a mockery of a pitch tailored far more to the wishes of bowlers than batsmen. Hick, however, is no ordinary batsman. This was his fourth century in consecutive championship matches, three coming at the end of last season; it was the 25th of his career and he is scoring at a rate of better than one every six innings.

Only the greats have ever aspired to such a statistic and while Hick has hopefully hardly begun his achievements, there seems no end in sight of his development.

This innings will have given him particular pleasure as, in the corresponding game a year ago, he failed twice on a turning pitch. The word in Lancashire was that he had a weakness; Hick was anxious to scotch any such suggestion and did so with such

Injured Daniel could face a long absence

Wayne Daniel, the Middlesex fast bowler, could be out for several weeks after injuring his back on the opening day of the season.

The former West Indies Test player bowled only three overs against Nottinghamshire at Lord's on Thursday before pulling up.

Daniel seems certain to miss the rest of the match. Middlesex are already fac-

ing the county champions without their opening batsman, Wilf Slack, who went down with influenza on Wednesday.

Middlesex ended yesterday 59 runs behind Nottinghamshire with nine wickets in hand. The top scorer for Nottinghamshire was Newell, who took more than six hours to scores his 80 runs. Match report, page 40

At the end of 100 overs Worcestershire were 261 for three and they batted on mercilessly for almost three hours more while the spinners, Simmons and Folley, added some respectability to their figures. It was Simmons who finally lured out Hick as he advanced against the turning ball. Folley who accounted for both Neale and Botham with spin away from the bat.

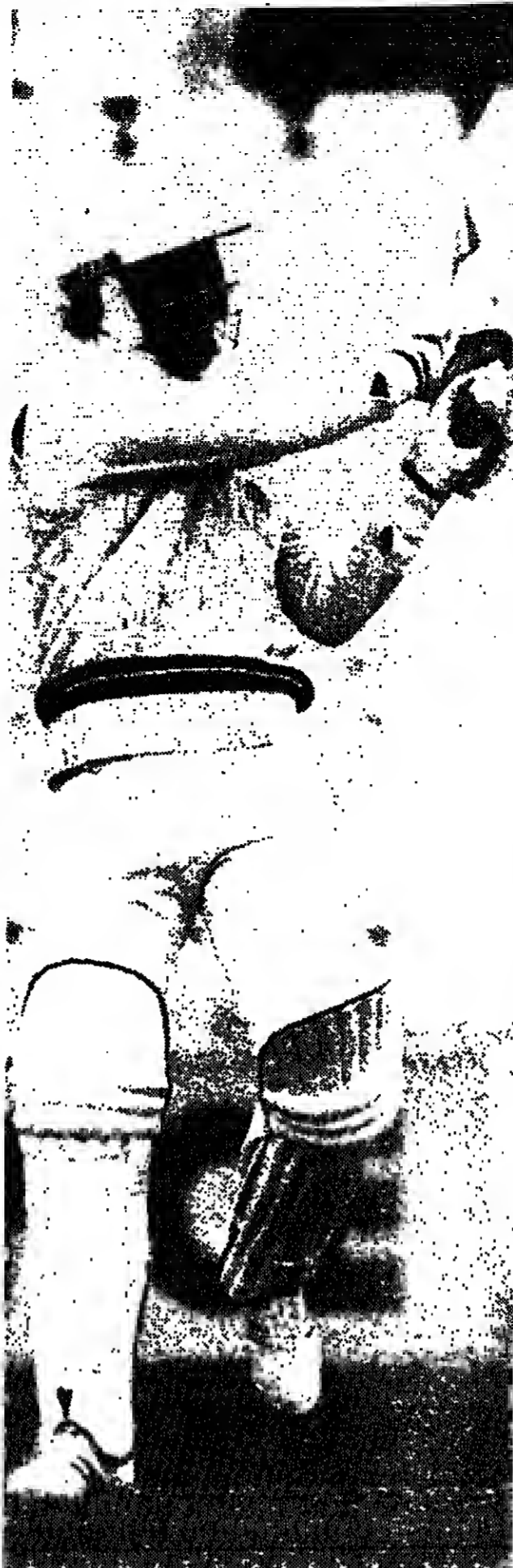
Half an hour before the close, Neale declared at the fall of the sprightly Rhodes. This gave Dilley, clearly restored to full fitness, time enough to remove both Fowler and Mendis, in his second over, with balls which lifted sharply. Hick, at third slip, and Radford, at gully, took fine catches to complete a melancholy day for Lancashire.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings
G A Hick b Simmons 212
D P A Neale b Folley 3
S J Rhodes b Simmons 28
I T Botham c Hughes b Folley 8
P J Newport not out 3
Extras (lb 21, w 1, nb 1) 23

Total (for 7 wickets dec) 409
R K Simpson, N V Radford and G R Dilley not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-70, 2-94, 3-138, 4-340, 5-388, 6-375, 7-409.

Worcestershire: First Innings
G A Hick b Dilley 49
G A Mendis c Radford b Dilley 39
G S Folley not out 29
T J Jesty not out 11

Total (for 7 wickets dec) 116
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-5, 3-18, 4-25, 5-30, 6-32, 7-38, 8-44, 9-47, 10-53, 11-53, 12-53, 13-53, 14-53, 15-53, 16-53, 17-53, 18-53, 19-53, 20-53.



Century-maker: Hick makes a mockery of a bowler's pitch

Budd decision seems likely to be deferred

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

It now seems highly unlikely, following the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) communiqué yesterday, that there will be any decision taken on Zola Budd's future at the board council meeting in London tomorrow.

After its own council meeting in London last weekend, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) virtually instructed the BAAB to suspend Budd for a year, with the threat that the BAAB itself — and all British athletes — would be suspended if the advice was not taken. The board was given a month to comply.

The BAAB immediately called the council meeting, now effectively preempted by the statement yesterday, which suggests that the BAAB's officers "carry out further investigations in conjunction with the Women's AAA, so that the BAAB is in a position to determine Miss Budd's eligibility under IAAF rules".

The rest of the statement consists of further temporizing, along with lip service to the IAAF constitution. All of which reads like little more than an act of defiance on the part of the BAAB, which now seems ready to take out the rest of the month before it follows the IAAF instruction, as it must surely do.

For, as John Bryant, Budd's coach, rightly pointed out yesterday: "We've already been

along to the BAAB's offices twice, and satisfied them to the question of her eligibility."

This has now devolved into a face-off between the IAAF and the BAAB, and begs the question as to just who is leading whom in this unemotional dance. Dr Primo Nebiolo, IAAF president, had in mind four years ago when he began his regular references to the 182 member nations of the IAAF as the "athletics family". It seems that, somewhere along the line, Johnny Speight took over the script.

Similar to-ing and fro-ing between the IAAF and the BAAB over Budd's eligibility to run in the world cross-country championship, last month was temporarily resolved by the athlete pulling herself out of the race.

It is now as if all parties are looking to see her standing barefoot in the wings, waiting to come on and dance the dying swan again. The only problem this time is that the bird is likely to appear centre stage, carrying an injunction under its wing.

For, if the BAAB has taken legal advice on the constitution soundness of the IAAF's "request" to suspend Budd, so have Budd and Bryant. And Bryant said yesterday: "We have been to see our lawyers again today, and they are adamant that we have the strongest possible case."

Hallett misses out on few chances

By Steve Acteson

Steve Davis produced incisive snooker to defeat Mike Hallett, 13-1 with a full session to spare to move into the quarter-finals in defence of his Embassy world championship title at Sheffield yesterday.

Davis's margin of victory equalled the heaviest previous defeat at the Crucible Theatre when he beat Cliff Thorburn 18-6 in the 1983 final. Another Davis, Joe, holds the record for the heaviest world championship victory. He beat Bill Withers of Wales 30-1 in 1937.

Hallett had already experienced two defeats by Davis this season, including a 9-0 whitewash in the Benson and

what he does to my game it's a question of what I do to it. You know what he's like. He's ruthless when he's in the balls but he gave me more chances than he ever before and I just couldn't punish him.

"Steve is more dedicated than anyone else. His attitude is subtle and he never lets you off the hook," he said. "It's a mental thing playing Steve Davis more than anything else and if you can climb over that mental barrier you're halfway there but I know I have a lot of work to do."

Davis said: "I was watching myself on television the other night and, for once, I actually looked mean, like Nigel Benn. It is not that I enjoy giving anyone a good spanking, it is just that if you play as well as that you know you're in with a great chance of the title. The damage was done the night before and, obviously, it helped to be that far in front today because then you can let the cue go a bit and play a few shots. That's a lovely, lovely feeling, especially at the Crucible."

Sheffield details

RESULTS: Second round Yesterday: S Davis (Eng) 13-9 M Hallett (Eng), 13-1. First round (Davis first): 8-30, 8-30, 8-46, 28-58, 21-16, 29-25, 75-0, 68-11, 91-38, 76-27, 46-82, 80-38, 75-26, 21-64, 73-38 (500) leads J White (Eng), 5-7. Frame scores (White first): 1-50, 60-11, 60-25, 60-27, 68-82, 80-38, 75-26, 21-64, 73-38 (500) leads J White (Eng), 5-7. Frame scores (White first): 1-50, 60-11, 60-25, 60-27, 68-82, 80-38, 75-26, 21-64, 73-38 (500) leads J White (Eng), 5-7.

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A pointed victory for Noah

From Richard Evans, Monte Carlo

Tennis matches are supposed to be decided by who wins the final point. Henri Leconte won what should have been the final point in a brilliantly played and highly controversial quarter-final in the Volvo Monte Carlo Open here yesterday. But it is Yannick Noah who will meet Ivan Lendl today. The score card says Noah beat Leconte 2-6, 7-6, 6-3.

The match, played in front of a capacity crowd on an idyllic afternoon, will be remembered for a single point, and that is unfair.

Having raked the court with one dazzling winner after another during the first set, Leconte reached triple match point at 6-3, in the second set tie-break. Noah hit what appeared to be a good first serve and Leconte replied with a backhand winner that Noah agreed he could never have reached even if he had tried for it. He did not because he thought his serve was long. Only the umpire agreed.

The linesman signalled "good" and Leconte pointed frantically at an obvious mark inside the service line. But Bruno Bédaride, a local umpire who is nevertheless one of the new professional officials touring the world circuit, overruled his linesman and ordered his second serve.

Noah saved the remaining match points, won with an audacious drive-volley off the backhand and wrapped up the tie break by 8-6.

When the truth hit home, Leconte screamed at the umpire and was doped a penalty point which Noah promptly handed back at the start of the third set by deliberately hitting two serves into the net.

"This was not a one-point match" Noah said. "Obviously I was very lucky because if Henri said the ball was good it was good. But we played some great tennis, and for the first set there was only one player on the court. No one has hit my serve back at me so hard, and I was serving well."

Noah demonstrated that at the end as Leconte fell apart

Scramble to miss relegation dominates Liverpool's day

By Ian Ross and Dennis Signy

Anfield, again re-established as the power base of English football, will be bursting at the seams this afternoon as Liverpool again attempt to complete the capture of their seventeenth Championship.

Having spurned the opportunity to put the issue beyond doubt against Norwich City at Carrow Road in midweek, the players who reduced the first division to a one horse race some three months ago can ensure a seventh title in just 10 years by taking a solitary point off Tottenham Hotspur this afternoon.

Even though it would take the most improbable of sporting miracles to deny Kenny Dalglish's side — Liverpool would have to lose their remaining games while second-placed Manchester United have to win their last four games by extraordinary margins — the Liverpool manager yesterday attempted to take the pressure off his players by insisting that time is very much on their side.

"We can win it tomorrow or in the next four games. What it boils down to is the fact that the players have played 35 games and they need just one point from the last five games to win the title. We are in a pleasant position," he said.

Taylor has grounds for promotion concern

By Dennis Shaw

Six of the seven second division managers still realistically jostling for a promotion place would welcome the prospect of a home bias to their remaining fixture programme.

The exception is one who actually has that privilege, Graham Taylor, of Aston Villa. "We have lost our last three games at Villa Park," he said, hinting at a degree of apprehension about the visit today of Shrewsbury Town.

"Debates by Leeds, Stoke and Oldham to successive games at home at this stage of the game is something you hope will happen to someone else not you."

After dropping from first to fifth since the end of March, Taylor acknowledges that Villa need to win today, next Monday week at home to Bradford and at Swindon to hope to capture one of the top two automatic promotion places.

"We can afford something to slip, but Manchester United cannot afford anything. A draw for us will win the title, a draw for them in any of their games will lose them the title."

John Barnes has recovered from a groin strain which forced him to miss the Norwich fixture and will definitely play, as will his England colleague, Peter Beardsley, who had been rated as a doubtful starter during the latter part of the week after sustaining a leg injury.

Meanwhile, Terry Venables, the Tottenham Hotspur manager, will be looking with concern over his shoulder at results at the other end of the table.

Venables has expressed his fear at being sucked into the relegation zone. Tottenham have won only six games in 22 since Venables' arrival at White Hart Lane in November, and defeat today could leave them embroiled in a battle to avoid the play-off games. Although cushioned by a seven-point lead over Charlton Athletic, who are currently fourth from bottom, Tottenham have played an extra game. After today, they visit Charlton and play Luton Town at home.

London is heavily involved in the relegation issue.

Whiteside awaits offer details

Olympiakos are interested in Norman Whiteside. After confirmation of their approach Whiteside is awaiting details.

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United's manager, said: "He spoke to me and I have spoken to Norman about the matter. He said he is interested and it is now down to Olympiakos. I expect to hear from them in the next few days."

Whiteside put in a transfer request two weeks ago after United had refused to extend his contract by a further two years. So far the Greek approach is the only one to reach United.

The West German international, Lothar Matthaeus, aged 27, has signed a three-year contract with Inter Milan.

UEFA has rejected an appeal by the Verona defender, Silvio Fontolan, against a one-year suspension from European competition for failing a post-game drugs test.

De Savary in thanks to U-turn

By Barry Pickthall

In a remarkable about-face, the San Diego Yacht Club yesterday cast aside its initial reluctance to accept Peter de Savary's Blue Arrow into the America's Cup. It has left the New Zealanders, who are trying to force the Californian cupholders to drop plans to defend a similar sized monohull to their own 123ft "K-Boat" challenger, thought the British boat also measured up in their "K-Boat" specifications.

However, when details of de Savary's proposed challenger began to emerge, the San Diegans were quick to realise that Blue Arrow's smaller dimensions added weight to their own argument that the 100-year-old Deed of Gift controlling this event allowed them to use any type of boat to ensure a successful defence.

De Savary said in Bristol yesterday that, after being "stalled" for 10 months, a team of 85 had now been mobilized to work on the revolutionary yacht.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Chance for Campbell

Although the British swimming team will be far from full strength for the Primavera Trophy match against Italy, Sweden, and Spain starting in Como, Italy, today, the racing will provide valuable indicators for the Olympic selectors regarding the British team for Seoul.

Adrian Moorhouse, who recently broke the European record for 100 metres breaststroke, is missing the trip because the match was not part of his planning programme for the year, which provides him Campbell with a chance of another serious tilt at Nick Gillingham, ranked national No. 2 to Moorhouse in the event.

Tickets sold

All the tickets for the Texaco Trophy one-day cricket international between England and West Indies at Edgbaston on May 19 have been sold.

Heritage saved for the children

END COLUMN

Heritage saved for the children

By John Goodbody

The Inner London Education Authority will not be going ahead with the disposal of 25 large playing fields in and around the capital, including large sports centres in Walthamstow, Southall and Edgware.

This heartening piece of news follows articles in The Times about the lack of use of several of these sites for schoolchildren and fears that before the demise of ILEA the sites will be sold and eventually used for housing development.

Neil Fletcher, the leader of ILEA, said yesterday that he had the backing of the chairman of the Schools and Development Committees and also Bernard Whitshire, Deputy Chairman, for Monday's Labour Group Meeting, which will discuss an ILEA report's recommendations that these playing-fields should be sold.

Fletcher said: "A short-term cash crisis should not be solved by disposing of these sites, which are valuable assets to Londoners. We want to look back in 20 years time and remember ILEA as the organization which disposed of these grounds."

Fletcher termed the playing fields as part of the "heritage" of London sport and wants them preserved, although ILEA itself will cease to exist when the local boroughs take over educational responsibilities for the capital in 1990.

Long-term look at facilities

He agreed that ILEA has more playing-fields than its schools need and that they are often in the wrong places. Walthamstow, Waltham, Southall and Priory Park, Edgware, which have all been given a reprieve, have been extensively used in the past by London's schoolchildren, who have been bussed out from the capital.

But because of the cost and inefficiency of this practice and because of the restrictions of funding from central government, all these playing fields have been used less and less.

Fletcher now proposes that ILEA, the office of Colin Moyhan, the Minister for Sport, the Central Council of Physical Recreation, the Sports Council, and the London Playing Fields Society should jointly have a long-term strategic look at outdoor facilities for Londoners. This would include the use of both public and privately-owned facilities for the community as a whole.

Peter Lawson, the secretary of the CCPR, said: "This is a real breakthrough. It is great news for London sport. If ILEA wishes to develop a policy of community use with the CCPR, we will use every influence to attract private sector financing."

Weekend access to satellite centres

The London region of the Sports Council argues that the original purpose of these satellite centres to provide young Londoners with recreational facilities should be maintained. It says that the centres should not necessarily revert to the local boroughs, in which they are situated and which are often better furnished with playing fields, but to the Inner London authorities.

What is essential is that these playing fields are used and continue to be used by as many people as possible, while their future ownership is decided. The London Region, a former ILEA sports centre in Ewell, must not be repeated elsewhere in the suburbs. Applications to buy this site from the London Residential Body finally closed on March 23, after the 90-acre site had lain unused for six years, despite frequent attempts by local clubs and individuals to obtain access to the lavish, publicly-owned facilities.

Regis British

Cyrille Regis, the Coventry City forward, learned yesterday that he is now officially British in the eyes of the EEC. Despite living here since he was five, Regis was told that because he was born in French Guiana, new EEC regulations meant he had to apply formally for British citizenship.

Packed house

The Welsh Rugby Union is anticipating a full house for the Schweppes Cup final between Llanelli and Neath on May 7. The National Stadium holds 63,000 people.

Losers again

The Baltimore Orioles have extended their Major League Baseball record to 15 consecutive losses at the start of the season.

Apartheid ban

Paul Wessels, Kenya's top tennis player, has been suspended for playing against a South African.

Seoul prepares for the Olympics, page 13
The Times Diary by Simon Barnes, page 10

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